

Cornelius Rufus Nelson
25 Bouverie Street
Fleet Street

THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXI.—NEW SERIES, No. 807.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 1861.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED... 5d.
STAMPED..... 6d.

THE ANNUAL SOIREE of the SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL. will be held on WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 1st, at the WHITTINGTON CLUB, ARUNDEL-STREET, STRAND (near St. Clement Dane's Church.)

THOMAS BARNES, Esq., M.P., will preside.
Tea will be on table at Six o'clock. Cards of admission 1s. 6d., or to admit a Lady and Gentleman 2s. 6d.
Further particulars will be announced next week.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.
2, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street.

SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE PATRONAGE and CONTROL.

The Treasurer's Account for the year 1860-61 will close on Saturday, the 25th inst., before which date it is requested that all subscriptions to appear in the next Report may be remitted in favour of WM. EDWARDS, Esq.
Subscribers of not less than half-a-guinea a-year receive the LIBERATOR monthly.

The ANNUAL SOIREE will be held on WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 1, at the WHITTINGTON CLUB.
J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.
2, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street, London.

BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

ANNUAL SERVICES.

TUESDAY, April 23.—A GENERAL MEETING of the Members of this Society will be held at the MISSION HOUSE, MOORGATE-STREET, at Ten o'clock in the Morning. This Meeting is for Members only. All Subscribers of 10s. 6d. or upwards, donors of 10s. or upwards, Pastors of Churches which make an annual contribution, or Ministers who collect annually for the Society, and one of the executors on the payment of a legacy of 50s. or upwards, are entitled to attend.

WEDNESDAY, April 24.—The ANNUAL MORNING SERMON will be preached at BLOOMSBURY CHAPEL, by the Rev. H. DOWNSON, of Bradford. Service to commence at Eleven o'clock. The ANNUAL EVENING SERMON will be preached at the METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE, by the Rev. C. H. SPURGEON, of London. Service to commence at half-past six o'clock.

THURSDAY, April 25.—The ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will be held at EXETER HALL, STRAND. The Chair to be taken by the Treasurer, Sir S. M. Peto, Bart., M.P., at Eleven o'clock. Speakers:—Rev. E. Paxton Hood; Rev. T. C. Page, late of Madras; Rev. R. Roberts, London; Rev. Frederick Monod, of Paris; Rev. H. Wilkinson, late of Orlean.

YOUNG MEN'S MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION.—The ANNUAL MEETING of the Association will be held in ALBION CHAPEL, MOORGATE, at half-past six o'clock. The Right Hon. the Earl of SHAFTESBURY is expected to preside. Speakers:—Rev. J. P. Chown; Rev. J. C. Page, of Bristol; Rev. W. Landels; Messrs. V. Bouthon and W. Baumann, Missionaries to Hayti.

Admission to the Public Meeting on Thursday Morning will be by Tickets, which may be obtained at the Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street.

The Platform at the Public Meeting will be appropriated to the Committee, to the Speakers, to the Representatives of kindred institutions, and to such other individuals as it may be deemed proper specially to invite; and also to all ministers who are members of the Society.

The Body of the Hall will be for the members of the Society generally.

FREDERICK TRESTRAIL, } Secretaries.
EDWARD B. UNDERHILL, }
33, Moorgate-street, April 15, 1861.

BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Mr. SPURGEON'S TABERNACLE, MONDAY EVENING, April 22.

The Chair to be taken at half-past six o'clock precisely, by FRANK CROSSLEY, Esq., M.P.

Speakers:—The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon; Francis Tucker, B.A.; Arthur Murrell, of Manchester; G. Whitehead, Missionary, County Durham; and other friends.

Admission, by Tickets, to be obtained at the Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street; and (at the time of meeting) at the Gate of the Tabernacle.

STEPHEN J. DAVIS, Secretary.

BAPTIST IRISH SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE, on TUESDAY EVENING, April 23rd. The following Ministers have engaged to speak:—Rev. O. M. Spurgeon; Rev. F. Edwards, B.A., of Leeds; Rev. J. M. Millard, B.A., of Maze Pond; Rev. Arthur Murrell, of Manchester.

The Chair to be taken at half-past six o'clock, by RICHARD HARRIS, Esq., of Leicester.

C. J. MIDDLEDITCH, Secretary.
Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street, April 16th, 1861.

BOOK SOCIETY for PROMOTING RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE AMONG the POOR. 19, Paternoster-row, and Bazaar, Soho-square.

The ANNUAL SOIREE and MEETING of the above Society will be held at the LONDON COFFEE HOUSE, LUDGATE-HILL, on WEDNESDAY, April 24, 1861.

The Chair will be taken at half-past six o'clock by Mr. Sheriff LUKK.

The meeting will be addressed by the Rev. Thomas Alexander, M.A.; Rev. William Barker; Rev. Joseph Brown, M.A.; Rev. E. Ferguson, D.D.; Rev. E. Spence Hardy, M.A.S.; Rev. J. F. Lingham, M.A.; Rev. J. De Kewer Williams.

Tea and Coffee at Five o'clock.
Tickets, 1s. each: to be obtained at the Depositories, 19, Paternoster-row, and Bazaar, Soho-square.

BRITISH and FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society is appointed to be held at EXETER HALL, in the Strand, London, on WEDNESDAY, the 1st of May, at Eleven o'clock precisely.

Tickets of Admission may be obtained at the Society's house, 10, Earl-street, Blackfriars, where attendance will be given from Wednesday, April 24, to Tuesday, April 30, for the purpose of issuing tickets, upon application, between the hours of Twelve and Four.

JOHN MEE, } Secretaries.
S. B. BERGNE, }

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

FAMINE IN TRAVANCORE.

The Friends of the Society will have read with great pain, in the Missionary Magazines for February, March, and April, the communications recently received from our Missionaries in Travancore, describing the fearful effects of the Famine, which has for many months prevailed in that province of Southern India, and by which multitudes of the native population, both Christian and Heathen, have been reduced to beggary, disease and death. Assured that the facts thus communicated would call forth a suitable response from the Friends of Humanity and Religion, the Directors did not deem it necessary to issue a special appeal upon the subject, and the contributions already placed at their disposal for the relief of the sufferers show that their confidence was not misplaced. While, however, they are grateful for the timely and valuable help already rendered, and feel convinced that it will be highly appreciated by the missionaries, and prove invaluable to the sufferers, the Directors believe that a much larger amount will yet be required to procure food for the destitute multitudes. They would, therefore, earnestly solicit further aid for this most pressing object, either by personal donations or congregational collections; assuring their friends that their bounty will cheer the hearts of the devoted men who labour in the midst of the famishing and dying thousands, but through God's blessing, save not a few from going down to the grave, and contribute to the future extension of the Gospel.

Signed on behalf of the directors,
ARTHUR TIDMAN, } Secretaries.
EBENEZER PROUT, }

Blomfield-street, Finsbury, E.C.,
16th April, 1861.
All remittances to be made to the Rev. E. Prout.

MIDNIGHT MEETING MOVEMENT, or MISSION to FALLEN WOMEN.

The FIRST ANNUAL DEVOTIONAL MEETING of this Institution will be held (D.V.) on TUESDAY EVENING, April 23, 1861, in the Large Room, FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN-STREET, LINCOLN'S-INN-FIELDS. Clergymen, Ministers, and other Gentlemen, who have assisted in the Meetings, will be present; and many interesting details will be given of the progress and results of the important movement for preaching the Gospel to the Fallen Women of Great Britain and Ireland.

Tickets, 1s. 6d. each, to be obtained at the Office, 27, Red Lion-square, W.C., and of the following persons:—Mr. Wilson, Mr. Stabs, and Mr. Smith, 27, Red Lion-square, W.C.; Mr. Cooper, 83, Queen-street, E.C.; Mr. Thomas, 200, Euston-road, N.W.; Mr. Hornbrook, 6, Regent-square, W.C.; the "Christian Cabinet" Office, Bolt-court, Fleet-street, E.C.; the Revival Office, Tichborne-court, 280, High Holborn, W.C.; Mr. Bartridge, 9, Paternoster-row, E.C.; Messrs. Nisbet, Berners-street, W.

Annual subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received by the Treasurers, Lieut.-Colonel John Worthy, 12, Westbourne Park-villas, W., and Mr. John Stabb, 27, Red Lion-square, W.C., to whom all Post-office orders and crossed cheques can be made payable; or by Messrs. Paget and Co., bankers, St. Paul's-churchyard, E.C.

THE ASYLUM for IDIOTS, EARLSWOOD, REDHILL, SURREY, for the Care and Education of the Idiot and Imbecile, especially in the earlier periods of life.

The next SPRING ELECTION and ANNUAL MEETING of this Charity will occur on THURSDAY, the 25th inst., at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, to receive the Domestic and Financial Reports, and for the purpose of ELECTING TWENTY CHILDREN, viz., FIVE for Life, and FIFTEEN for the ordinary period of Five Years, from a List of 174 Candidates.

Mr. Alderman and Sheriff ABBISS in the Chair.

The Meeting will commence at Eleven o'clock, and the Poll will close at Two precisely.

The Board request a perusal of the last Report, and of a pamphlet by the Rev. Edwin Sidney, A.M., entitled, "A Visit to Earlswood," which may be had gratuitously on application at the Office, where information will be cheerfully supplied, and Contributions thankfully received, by the Secretary, Mr. Wm. Nicholas, to whom all orders should be made payable.

BANKERS.

THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, Princes-street, City.

JOHN CONOLLY, M.D., D.C.L., } Gratuitous
ANDREW REED, D.D., } Secretaries.

Office, 29, Poultry, E.C., April, 1861.

COLONY of NONCONFORMISTS in NEW ZEALAND.

Intending emigrants connected with the leading Dissenting bodies are invited to join the movement for establishing a Settlement of Nonconformists, of about 200 families, in the province of Auckland, New Zealand.

A large block of land will shortly be ready for allotment (in forty acre sections) under the Free Grant regulations. Lower rates of passage, superior accommodation on board, correct information as to the country, an agricultural instructor appointed, a register kept of servants wanted, and other advantages.

A minister, doctor, and schoolmaster will accompany the party; and a fund be provided towards their passage expenses and the erection of a place of worship and a school-room.

Prospectuses may be had by enclosing a stamp, and addressing "The Secretary of the National Association for promoting Special Settlements in New Zealand, 24, Waterloo-street, Birmingham."

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION (Limited)

The great success which has attended the new ENTERTAINMENTS at this Institution, has induced the Managing Director to make arrangements for continuing the popular and amusing subjects with which Mr. Frederick Chatterton and Mr. George Buckland have delighted crowded audiences during Easter. The inspiring sweep of Mr. Frederick Chatterton on his powerful harp, and the facetious humour of Mr. George Buckland, form a contrast that few musical entertainments of this description can equal. Dissolving Views and other Exhibitions as usual. Open Morning and Evening. Admission, 1s.; Children, half-price.

JOHN S. PHENE, Managing Director.
309, Regent-street.

OPEN-AIR SERVICES in LINCOLN'S-INN-FIELDS.

The Rev. R. G. HARPER, Minister of Fetter-lane Congregational Chapel, will (D.V.) PREACH in the OPEN-AIR in LINCOLN'S-INN-FIELDS East Side (nearly opposite Lincoln's Inn-gate) on every LORD'S-DAY during the summer, at Three o'clock in the Afternoon, commencing on next Sunday, the 21st inst.

Thus saith our Lord Jesus:—"Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind."—"Go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled."

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVER STOCK-HILL, near Hampstead.

Instituted May 10, 1758, for Children of both Sexes, of all Denominations, and from any part of the kingdom.
PATRON:—Her Majesty the QUEEN.

A GENERAL COURT of the GOVERNORS will be held on FRIDAY, the 26th of April next, at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE, to receive the Annual Report from the General Committee, and to consider the following recommendations therein, viz.:—That in future there be Two Elections but only one Meeting of the Governors in each year—that in April; that the Election be in April and October, and that the Auditors be appointed at the Annual Meeting; to choose the several officers for the year ensuing; and to elect Thirty Children—Twenty Boys and Ten Girls.

The Chair will be taken immediately after the general business has been disposed of, and the Poll will be closed at Two precisely, after which hour no votes can be received. The result will be declared at Four o'clock.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Office, 32, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.,
March 13, 1861.

Annual Subscription for One Vote, 10s. 6d.; for Two Votes, 11s. Life Donation for One Vote, 6l. 6s.; for Two Votes, 10l. 10s. The votes increasing in proportion to the contribution.

Persons Subscribing on the day of Election will be entitled to vote on that occasion.

TRACT and BOOK SALOON, 9, Paternoster-row, London, opened for the supply of Religious

Tracts and small Books, and cheap Evangelical Literature, selected from the Publications of the Religious Tract Society, the Dublin Tract Depository, the Book Society, and other Associations, and from the Catalogues of private Publishers.

Friends, from the country especially, will find the advantage of having in one spacious apartment the choicest works collected from various quarters.

Open from Ten till Five; Saturdays, till Two. A few doors from Cheapside.

BRIGHTSIDE BIERLOW BURIAL GROUND.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the BURIAL BOARD for the Township of Brightside Bierlow, in the Borough of Sheffield, in the County of York, is desirous of APPOINTING a DISSIDENT MINISTERS to perform the Burial Service over Persons interred in the Unconsecrated part of the Burial Ground of the said Township.

Applications to be sent to me, on or before the 23rd April inst., of whom particulars may be obtained.

By order,

THOS. COLLINSON, Clerk of the Board.

Vestry Office, Nursery-street, Sheffield,
April 4, 1861.

HAMPDEN CHAPEL, GROVE-STREET, HACKNEY.

For SALE, by PRIVATE CONTRACT, this substantial and comparatively newly erected Place of Worship, capable of accommodating 750 persons, with power of increase by the addition of two side Galleries. The neighbourhood is highly respectable and rapidly increasing. Held on lease for Sixty-six years at a ground rent of 20l.

For Price and Particulars apply to Messrs. Jenkinson, Sweeting, and Jenkinson, 7, Clement's-lane, Lombard-street; Henry Baker, Esq., Kilburn; and John Webb, Esq., 23, Park-road, Dalston.

BRITISH SCHOOLS, WINDSOR.—A

CERTIFICATED MASTER of experience is REQUIRED at Midsummer next for the BOYS' DEPARTMENT of these Schools. The average attendance for several years past has been from 150 to 170, and at the present time an Assistant and Two Pupil Teachers are engaged in the School. Salary, 80l., with a house to live in, free from rent, rates, and taxes.

Application, with testimonials, to be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Durand, 3, Clarence Villas, Windsor.

A YOUNG LADY, a member of a Christian Church, is desirous of obtaining a SITUATION as GOVERNESS in a family. Has had three years' experience in Tuition, and is fully competent to impart instruction in English, French, German, and Drawing. The highest testimonials can be given.

Address, M. S., 63, Moorgate-street, London, E.C.



TO DRAPERS and MILLINERS.—WANTED, an active YOUNG MAN, of thorough business habits; likewise an experienced YOUNG LADY for Millinery and Mantles.
Apply to George Pollard, Chipping Ongar, Essex.

WANTED, as an IMPROVER, or JUNIOR ASSISTANT in the DRAPERY, a YOUNG MAN of respectable character and business habits, who will be willing to conform to the rules of a Dissenting family.
Apply to Joseph Smith, London House, Stamford.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, an active, well-educated YOUNG MAN, of good address, in the SILK and SHAWL DEPARTMENT. A member of a Christian Church preferred.
Application, stating age, salary, and full particulars, to be made to Wm. Rowntree, Scarborough.

TO GROCERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, a YOUNG MAN, who has had some few years' experience in the TEA, GROCERY, and PROVISION TRADE.
Apply to J. Atkins, Grocer, Eton, near Windsor.

TO IRONMONGERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, a JUNIOR ASSISTANT, or an IMPROVER; also an APPRENTICE. A Wesleyan preferred.
Apply, with full particulars, to J. Thurston, Narrow Bridge-street, Peterborough.

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT, in a small family in the country, age about Thirty; a good Plain Cook, and able to get up fine linen; the greater part of the washing put out. Wages, 12l. per annum; no beer allowed.
Address, Z., Post-office, Newport, Isle of Wight.

PERSONS VISITING LONDON will find excellent ACCOMMODATION at SHIRLEY'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, 37, QUEEN-SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY. Beds, 1s. 6d.; Plain Breakfast or Tea, 1s.

TO PRINTERS.—A SHARE in an old-established COUNTRY OFFICE, may be PURCHASED by a thoroughly Practical PRINTER, with a capital of about 50l. The Office is principally Jobbing, and in full operation, with a first-class mercantile connexion, and having the support of an extensive Bookselling and Stationery Establishment adjoining. A genteel Residence is attached to the premises for the occupation of the party treating.
Address, by letter only, to W. W., care of Messrs. Bealey and Co., Typefounders, Fann-street, Aldersgate, London.

THE VOTE by BALLOT SOCIETY.
MEMBERS—all Subscribers of One Shilling and upwards yearly. Friends are requested to agitate in the provinces. Applications for Petitions, Tracts, and Lectures, to be sent to the undersigned, by whom Subscriptions will be received.
JOHN F. BONTEMS, Honorary Secretary.
Office—5, Guildhall Chambers, London, E.C.

THE NATIONAL ART UNION.
Licensed by the Board of Trade.
PRESIDENT—His Grace the DUKE of HAMILTON.
SUBSCRIPTION—FIVE SHILLINGS.
HEAD OFFICE, 30, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(Opposite the Electric Telegraph Station.)
A Subscription of Five Shillings constitutes Membership for One Year, entitling to One Chance in obtaining a Painting or other Work of Art at the Annual Meeting of the Society.
No engraving will be distributed amongst the members, but the Whole Amount of Subscriptions, after deducting the necessary expenses of Management, and such a sum annually as the Council may from time to time consider expedient for the purpose of forming a Reserve Fund, will be expended on Works of Art.
ROBERT A. KIDSTON, Secretary.
CHARLES JAMES ROWE, Assistant-Secretary.
N.B.—The Drawing for Prizes will positively take place on the 30th of May.
City Branch, 56, Fenchurch-street, E.C.

CHRISTIAN BLIND RELIEF SOCIETY.
The Committee of this Society earnestly APPEAL for AID. There are at present upwards of two hundred pensioners on the funds, but it is the anxious desire of the Committee to raise this number to one thousand before the close of 1861. There are several thousands of utterly destitute blind persons in this country, who, from other afflictions in addition to their blindness, or from having lost their sight late in life, are quite unable to earn their daily bread; it is on behalf of such as these the Society asks for HELP.
The mode of administering relief is by pensions of Half-a-Crown per week, or by temporary relief of 5s. or 2s. 6d. per month, until they can be placed permanently on the 2s. 6d. per week list, which is accomplished by rotation. The Society is desirous of extending relief, regardless of creed or denomination, to every blind person of good moral character, who shall possess the necessary qualifications—BLINDNESS and WANT.
A SUBSCRIBER of One Guinea per annum has the privilege of nominating a pensioner, who will be immediately placed on the funds, if found to be a proper object of relief.
A DONATION of Ten Guineas constitutes a LIFE SUBSCRIBER.
SUBSCRIPTIONS or DONATIONS will be received by the London and Westminster Bank, and its branches, or by H. E. Gurney, Esq. (Overend, Gurney, and Co.), Lombard-street, President of the East London Auxiliary; John Gurney Fry, Esq., 14, St. Helen's-place, Bishopsgate, President of the Parent Society.
DONATIONS or SUBSCRIPTIONS of a Guinea and upwards will be acknowledged monthly in the "Nonconformist," and also in the "Times."
Reports and all information may be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretaries:—Mr. Cox, 100, Borough-road, S.; Mr. Clark, 13A, John-street, Stepney, E.; Mr. Watson, 3, Bartholomew lane, E.C.

PARALYSIS and EPILEPSY.—The Board and NATIONAL HOSPITAL for the PARALYSED and EPILEPTIC, 24, QUEEN-SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY, earnestly appeals for AID to maintain ADDITIONAL BEDS and to meet the urgent applications for relief and care from all parts of the kingdom. The cases exceed 1,000 under treatment. Numerous helpless sufferers have been cured.
DONATIONS thankfully received by the Secretary, at the Hospital, and every information given. Bankers:—Union Bank, City; Messrs. Coutts, Strand.
GEORGE REID, Secretary.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, SLOUGH.
Conducted by Mr. VERNER.
Sound Education on moderate terms, in a healthy locality, eighteen miles from town.
Full Particulars promptly supplied.

COALS.—Best Sunderland, 25s.; Newcastle or Hartlepool, 24s.; best Silkestone, 23s.; Coke, per chaldron, 16s.
B. HIBBERDINE, Sussex and Union-wharfs, Regent's-park; Chief Offices: 169 and 266, Tottenham-court-road.

COALS.—Best Coals only. — COCKERELL and Co.'s price is now 20s. per ton cash for the BEST SCREENED COALS, as supplied by them to her Majesty—13, Cornhill, E.C.; Purfleet-wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars E.C.; Eaton-wharf, Belgrave-place, Pimlico, S.W.; and Sunderland-wharf, Peckham, S.E.

BEST COALS, 26s.—GAMMAN, SON, and CARTER, solicit orders for the best Hetton's Wallsend Screened, at 26s.; good Seconds at 24s.; and Inland Coals at 22s.
Stone House Wharf, Ratcliff, E.; and 11 King Edward's-road, Hackney, N.E.

COALS.—By Screw and Railway.—HIGH-BURY and KINGSLAND COAL DEPOTS.—LEA and CO.'S PRICE for HETTON and LAMPTON WALLSEND, the best House Coal is 25s., direct from the Collieries by screw-steamers; Hartlepool, 24s.; best small, 12s.; Silkestone, 23s.; seconds, 21s.; best Clay Cross, 22s.; seconds, 19s.; Barnsley, 18s.; Hartley's, 18s. 6d. per ton, net cash. Delivered screened, to any part of London.—All orders to be forwarded to LEA and CO., Chief Offices, North London Railway Station, Highbury, Islington, or Kingsland. N.B. No agents employed.

WEST OF ENGLAND
DISSENTERS' PROPRIETARY SCHOOL,
TAUNTON.
PRINCIPAL—Rev. W. H. GRIFFITH, B.A.
TERMS, INCLUDING FRENCH AND GERMAN.
For Boarders under 10 Years of Age, 24 Guineas per annum.
" above 10 and under 14, 28 " "
" above 14 " 32 " "
No Charge for Books.
Further particulars may be obtained by application to the Principal, or to the Secretary, J. S. UNDERWOOD.

EUGENIE COLLEGE for LADIES,
CENTRAL-HILL, UPPER NORWOOD.
Five minutes' walk from the Crystal Palace, to which building the Pupils have free access daily for study and recreation.
PRINCIPAL—Mrs. C. G. ROWE,
Assisted by the Rev. C. G. Rowe, and eminent Professors.

HOWARD HOUSE ACADEMY,
THAME, OXON.
Conducted by Mr. J. MARSH, assisted by English and French Resident Masters.

The course of instruction pursued in the above Establishment has been eminently successful under the present Principal for Twenty Years.
The training is especially adapted to prepare Pupils for Mercantile pursuits, including Latin, French, Drawing, Music, and Superior Penmanship. Mr. Marsh's pupils prepared the Finest Specimens of Penmanship and Drawing in the World's Exhibition of 1851. See report of "London Illustrated News." References may be made to the Rev. Dr. Hoby, Twickenham; Rev. J. Dorey, Edmonton; Rev. C. Vines, Birmingham; Rev. P. Cornford, Luton; Rev. W. Monk, M.A., Cambridge; W. Johnson, Esq., F.R.S., Bloester; and Parents of Pupils in all the Midland Counties.
Terms, inclusive, Twenty-two Guineas per annum under Twelve years of age; above Twelve years, Twenty-four Guineas. This sum includes Tuition, Books, and Washing. Latin, French, Music, Two Guineas each.
N.B.—Ten Acres of Private Cricket Ground.

THE CONGREGATIONAL BUILDING SOCIETIES.
Established 1852.
Deposits received at Five per Cent. Interest. Forms for Opening Accounts forwarded on application to the Manager,
R. G. PEACOCK,
Eccleston Hall, Elizabeth-street, South, Pimlico.

DEPOSIT, ASSURANCE, and DISCOUNT BANK.
FIVE PER CENT. on Sums for fixed periods; or, according to the amount, at from Seven to Thirty days' notice. Three per Cent. at Call.
5, Cannon-street West, E.C.
G. H. LAW, Manager

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS and FROM ANY CAUSE,
may be provided against by an Annual payment of £3 to the **RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,**
which secures 1,000l. at death by Accident, or 6l. weekly for Injury.
NO EXTRA PREMIUM for VOLUNTEERS!
ONE PERSON in every TWELVE insured is injured yearly by accident.
£75,000
has been already paid as Compensation.
For further information apply to the Provincial Agents, the Railway Stations, or at the Head Office, 64, Cornhill, (late 3, Old Broad-street).
Annual Income £40,000.
CAPITAL ONE MILLION.
W. J. VIAN, Secretary.
64, Cornhill, E.C., January, 1861.

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,
32, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, LONDON, E.C.
DIRECTORS.
John Gover, Esq., Chairman.
R. J. Millar, Esq., Vice-Chairman.
Benham, Aug., Esq. Gardiner, B. W., Esq.
Bennett, C., Esq. Groser, W., Esq.
Bunnell, P., Esq. Lewis, G. C., Esq.
Burge, G. W., Esq. Pratt, Daniel, Esq.
Burton, J. R., Esq. Sanders, J., Esq.
AUDITORS.
Adams, C. J., Esq. Salter, E., Esq.
BANKERS.—Union Bank of London, Temple-bar.
SOLICITORS.—Messrs. Watson and Sons.
PHYSICIAN.—Dr. E. Headlam, Greenhow.
SURGEON.—John Mann, Esq.

This Company was established January, 1847, for the purpose of extending the various benefits of Life Assurance to all classes, on the most advantageous terms.
The progress which the Company has made will be seen by the following statistics:—
Accumulated Fund £193,000
Annual Income 63,176
Death Claims Paid 116,232
Profits Declared 103,348
* Active and influential Agents will be appointed in unrepresented places, upon application to
ALFRED LENCH SAUL, Secretary.

STAR LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY
CHIEF OFFICE—48, MOORGATE-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

TRUSTEES.
Thomas Farmer, Esq. G. Smith, LL.D., F.A.S.
William Betts, Esq. Frederic Mildred, Esq.
William Skinner, Esq.
The Directors have much pleasure in reporting that the new business of the Society for the year 1861 is as follows:—
Policies issued 902
Sums assured £236,290 0 0
Annual Premiums £1,312 15 9
By order, JESSE HOBSON, Secretary.

PIANOFORTES EXTRAORDINARY at MOORE and MOORE'S 104, Bishopsgate-street Within. These are first class Pianos of rare excellence; possessing exquisite improvements recently applied, and which effect a grand, pure, and beautiful quality of tone that stands unrivalled. Prices from eighteen guineas. First-class Pianos for hire, with easy terms of purchase.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

A SEARCH FOR A COMPROMISE—THE MEMBERS FOR MIDDLESEX.

THE information we receive from various parts of the country satisfies us that a temporary transference of the Church-rate controversy from Parliament to the parishes, whatever other effect it may produce, will add nothing to either the peace, the dignity, or the safety of the Church Establishment. A spirit of resistance to this ecclesiastical impost is rapidly penetrating to the smaller parishes, and should the contest be prolonged for two or three years more, the intervention of the Legislature will be almost superfluous. The guerilla warfare carried on at so many different points will be found by the pro-rate party far more difficult to cope with, than a regular campaign in the House of Commons. Whether success or defeat be the issue of a struggle in the vestry, is a matter of merely temporary and local interest; in either case, the utter impracticability of perpetuating the system receives additional evidence. In fact, apart from the efforts of the Liberation Society, this Church-tax is visibly doomed to extinction, and the most energetic attempts made to save it, do nothing but bring out into stronger relief the radical unsoundness of the principle of which it is an illustration.

Such being the general position of the question, the self-constitution of a small committee, representing those Conservatives who believe that they must concede something, but desire it to be as little as possible, and those Whig-Liberals who are pledged to surrender the whole but wish to retain as much as possible, for the purpose of receiving suggestions, and piecing out of them a compromise, strikes us as eminently unstatesmanlike. Where religious feelings are involved every proposal to settle the difference by way of compromise has been found to be ultimately unsuccessful. It was so in the case of Ministers' Money in Ireland. It is so in that of the Annuity-tax at Edinburgh. It would be so with Church-rates in England. Were the question one of amount only, both parties might be induced to make some concession. But the difference now under consideration is one of principle. It is one, moreover, of thirty years' standing. And it is one which, in regard to one-half of the population of the kingdom, has been settled, without waiting for the consent of Parliament, on the basis of total abolition. In all the constitutional modes in which public opinion can express itself, public opinion has condemned compulsory exactions for ecclesiastical purposes. In three different Parliaments, at two General Elections, and by three to one in the number of petitioners, it has affirmed the principle of an immediate and unconditional extinction of the impost. And hence, it certainly appears to us not a little presumptuous for some four or half-a-dozen private members of the House of Commons to undertake a settlement of the question on the basis of a compromise, and to invite suggestions as to the provisions which the compromise should include.

Yet this is what is now being attempted by four members of the House of Commons, and Lord Enfield and Mr. Hanbury, the members for Middlesex, are two of the four. The position they are taking, we must say, greatly perplexes us. If they had fixed upon a scheme of compromise, settled its details, and ascertained its acceptableness to the more timid and moderate men of both parties, their proceeding might have been at least intelligible. In such case, one might have ascribed their political indiscretion to a paternal partiality for the offspring of their own ingenuity, or to an intense conviction that any settlement of the controversy would be preferable to letting matters remain as they are. But to commence their experiment of statesmanship by throwing ground-bait into the turbid waters, and fishing for terms, is tantamount to a confession that it is compromise as such, and not any particular plan of compromise, which they are aiming to bring about. "We may, or we may not, be able to substitute something for that which public opinion demands—but, at any rate, we will show our desire to do so," is a correct translation of their proceeding into words. "Abolition is what the public call for—compromise is what we prefer to give them. We have not yet agreed upon the items of which it shall consist. But in one conclusion we are unanimous—that we will do our best to foist upon them something which they have not asked for in the place of something which they have."

Now, we take the liberty of respectfully submitting to Lord Enfield and Mr. Hanbury that inasmuch as they are supposed to represent the populous and influential constituency of Middlesex, it would be but fair to allow their electors some voice in this matter. Unless we are greatly mistaken, neither of these gentlemen obtained his seat on the understanding that he would use all the influence of his position to neutralise the decision of the majority who elected him. Both of them may since then have seen reason to change his mind on the subject—and the arguments and persuasions of the Bishop of London may have greatly altered their individual views. They must not be surprised, therefore, should the electors of Middlesex who placed them where they are, change their opinions likewise, and with it their conduct. They will hardly deny to their constituents that liberty to review a former judgment which they have claimed for themselves. Whether the Liberal electors of the metropolitan county have altered their opinion on the question of Church-rates, we cannot say. As yet, however, no indication of it has crossed our path. But if there be no general modification of their former views in favour of Church-rate abolition, there very soon will be as to the fitness of Lord Enfield and Mr. Hanbury to represent them in Parliament. Such a constituency as that of Middlesex does not usually prefer being represented by members who plot to prevent their wishes being carried into effect. It makes them look foolish, which no large body of men can be supposed to like—and gentlemen who have not sufficient firmness to resist the pressure of a bishop and his clergy, ought to satisfy themselves, at all events, that the bishop and clergy can re-elect them. Possibly, they may have done so.

On this supposition, however, a duty devolves upon those Liberal electors who may not have changed their opinions on the Church-rate question, to put themselves right. They are not likely to be precipitate. They will, no doubt, inquire of, and listen to, their members, as to the reasons by which they have been governed. They will be generous enough to distinguish between what is due to a hasty and inconsiderate mistake, and a settled and deliberate change of policy. They will do for their members what their members forgot to do for them—give them fair warning of any change they may deem necessary. But there is one thing we confidently predict that they will not do. They will not suffer their representatives to chisel them on this question of Church-rates. They will not tamely

allow themselves to be made fools of by the men to whom they have entrusted political power. Without trenching upon the independence of members, they will, at least, know how to vindicate their own dignity.

THE TRUSTEES OF CHARITIES BILL.

Mr. Dillwyn's Trustees of Charities Bill, which was read a second time on the 20th of February by a majority of seven, is to go into committee at this morning's sitting of the House of Commons, and stands first in the order of the day. The object of the measure is simply to make Dissenters eligible to be trustees in schools and other charities in which no express provision is otherwise made in the deed.

CHURCH-RATES.

THE WAR IN THE PARISHES.

We have this week to report another series of successful Church-rate contests. The area of this struggle is now so rapidly extending, that there would not be much difficulty in predicting the time when, with a few exceptions, Church-rates will be altogether extinguished. It is gratifying to remark that in almost every contest the discussion of the voluntary principle has been prominent. The rates have not been abolished merely because they involve injustice to Dissenters, but because they are based upon an unsound and vicious principle. This is well! The parishes are thus paving the way for the discussion and settlement of the greater question.

ISLINGTON.—READING THE VICAR OF FROME'S PAMPHLET.—A public meeting was held on the 5th inst., in the school-room, Liverpool-buildings, Liverpool-street, when John Richardson, Esq., C.C., read copious extracts from the powerful letter written by the Rev. J. Bennett, the Vicar of Frome, against the continuance of Church-rates. R. Stapleton, Esq., C.C., presided. Mr. Richardson selected several of the most prominent paragraphs of Mr. Bennett's pamphlet, which he rendered in a clear and emphatic manner, and was frequently interrupted by rounds of applause. Besides a vote of thanks to Mr. Richardson, the following was carried:—

That this meeting having heard the letter of the Rev. J. Bennett, M.A., entitled, "Why Church-rates should be Abolished," desire to convey to him their hearty thanks for the service he has rendered to the cause of civil and religious liberty by its publication, and earnestly hope that it may prove a powerful agency in hastening the day of the final accomplishment of so desirable an object.

ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE.—The resolution condemnatory of Church-rates proposed by Mr. Arthorpe at the Easter vestry meeting, was not, it appears, withdrawn, but adjourned to the next vestry in consequence of the lateness of the hour.

A RECTOR CENSURED.—At the meeting of the vestry of St. Peter's, Cornhill, on Easter Monday, Mr. Fisher said he scarcely knew whether it would be competent to put on record a resolution of the sense of the vestry with regard to the inattention of their rector to the duties of his office. The rector, Sir J. P. Wood, held the living at a very liberal stipend, and yet never came among his parishioners; and he (Mr. Fisher), as an ardent admirer of the principles of the Established Church, and as a constant attendant at St. Peter's, felt strongly upon the subject. He thought that the vestry should pass a resolution on the subject, if it were only to let those who followed them in years to come see that they had sufficient spirit to protest against such conduct. Mr. Morris concurred in the opinion expressed by the late speaker. They were in a similar position in another parish with which he was connected (St. Botolph, Bishopsgate), and the parishioners had moved in the matter. Mr. Morris concluded by moving:—"That at the next meeting of this vestry, the long-continued absence of the rector be taken into consideration, and that Sir J. P. Wood be informed of such meeting." The resolution was carried unanimously. The value of this rectory is 388*l.*—the population of the parish 656.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.—It was decided at a meeting of the vestry of this parish on the 5th inst. to call a vestry to make a Church-rate. This resolution took many of the inhabitants by surprise, and it was at once determined by the anti-rate party to fight the battle of abolition once more. The result of their

canvass proved beyond a doubt that the victory would be an easy one, and it turned out to be easier than they expected. The vestry met on Friday morning. The Rev. G. Acklom, the vicar, took the chair. The vicar said that he approved of Church-rates in the abstract, and he should approve of them in this parish if there was any probability of getting a rate, but he did not think there was the least, and he thought it was no use throwing the parish into confusion on the subject. They should be beaten by three to one. After a good deal of discussion the vicar finally determined that the notice was bad, and declared the meeting dissolved (as it did not specify the parish for which it was intended to make the rate). The meeting then adjourned, but so strong were the feelings it had raised that many of the rate-payers adjourned to the Town-hall to express their opinions of the proceedings. Mr. Cranstone was called to the chair, and after some discussion the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

That this meeting is of opinion that the rate-payers of this parish have been unjustifiably dealt with in having been called together by a notice which was known to be illegal, and hereby express its condemnation of the conduct of those who convened the vestry, and its hope that this is the last time the rate-payers will be summoned for a similar purpose.

The *Hemel Hempstead Gazette* says of this contest:—

We regret that the question was not brought to the poll, and decided once for all, as it would unquestionably have been by an overwhelming majority on the side of the opposers of the rate. It is a question whether the churchwardens are still bound by the vote of the vestry of yesterday week, and we wait, therefore, to see if new notices will be issued. But surely the supporters of the rate are now convinced, or they ought to be, that the time has gone by for Episcopalians to force other and poor denominations to repair fabrics which they do not use, and which Churchmen enjoy rent-free.

BREDON.—At a vestry meeting at Bredon, Worcestershire, on Thursday, the 4th inst., it was moved by a churchwarden, and seconded by a rate-payer,—

That the necessary funds required by the churchwardens for the necessary payments connected with their office during the year, be raised by voluntary contributions instead of making a Church-rate.

The resolution was carried without opposition.

BRAMPTONHAM.—On Friday last, the ratepayers of this parish met at the vestry, to decide, by a poll, the question of having a Church-rate or no rate. By three o'clock in the afternoon there was a majority of twenty-one to have no rate, besides eighteen votes ready on the spot to be recorded for no rate, if required. By that time, however, the vicar of the parish, along with the churchwardens, in the most honorable way, withdrew from the contest, and closed the poll. During the poll, although the contest was keen, yet there was no spirit of bitterness, and the affair ended in a cool, business-like style.—*Newcastle Daily Express*.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—An excited vestry meeting has been held in this parish. On the proposal for a rate, Mr. Paye moved, and Mr. Rossiter seconded, an amendment, that no rate be granted. Mr. Rossiter said he had told them last year that he had paid his last rate. They said "it was only a penny," but suppose that penny was to be collected for the Pope of Rome, what an outcry there would be! He would object to pay for any man's religion who could pay for his own. He was not alone in his objections. There were some of the highest clergy of the Church of England who said that it was an unjust law. He begged to read an extract from the Rev. Mr. Bennett, of Frome, on the injustice of making the Dissenters pay the Church-rate. Mr. Rossiter having concluded his extract, said he could say Amen to the argument of Mr. Bennett, though he could not hold with many of his proceedings. Mr. Plumb said he was one that objected to pay, and refused to pay Church-rates. They said that the Government was thinking of settling the question for them. The fact was, that the Government had not settled the question, because they were told that it was not the wish of the people, and they wanted the Government to understand from that meeting that it was the wish of the people to abolish Church-rates. If they made a rate, he, for one, must refuse to pay it. The Rev. W. W. Rowley, a Churchman, thought Dissenters should be exempt.

But he would not give up the principle of Church-rates, but he thought they ought to be obligatory on those who went to church. But, coming to the present state of things, he did not think the Church-rate question would remain where it was for another twelvemonth. Another person said that it was intended by that meeting to give an idea to Government that all the towns were opposed to Church-rates. In order to carry out that point, the whole town must decide it; not a few in a meeting. If that Church-rate was opposed, the whole town would be polled. The question was, would it not be better to let the matter go until the legislature decided it. He did not think that anybody would be injured by paying a shilling to that church, and he asked them if it would not be better to let the matter tide over for the present, and wait to see what Government did? He believed it would be better for the peace of the town. For himself he would grant an exemption to every Dissenter, but he would make it compulsory on every Churchman.

After further discussion, the chairman said he should be very sorry to see the question brought to a polling of the parish; the whole of the blame of that would rest with Mr. Rossiter and his friends, for they had put the question in this way, that the voice of that parish was to be added, or not to be added, against Church-rates. Did they think that they, as Churchmen, would sit quietly by under such circumstances? The chairman then put the question, when the show of hands was in favour of the rate, the numbers being—for, 24; against, 20. A poll was then demanded, the Churchmen being anxious to avoid it.

MAKING PROGRESS!—A Somersetshire correspondent writes:—"I am glad to be enabled to report progress in the Anti-Church-rate movement in this locality. The question is being discussed in villages where it never has been before, and people are generally alive to its importance."

KILINGTON, NEAR FROME.—At the usual vestry meeting on Easter Monday, an adjournment was proposed and carried to give the churchwardens time to produce estimates, which created, says a correspondent, quite a consternation amongst the High-Church party, and called forth all their exertions to procure votes. At the adjourned meeting on the 8th inst., although the question has never before been raised, the churchwardens carried their rate by only a bare majority. This contest, says our correspondent, has given the death blow to Church-rates in this parish.

GREATHAM.—DISPUTED CHURCH-RATE.—The quiet little village of Greatham has, within the last few days, been the scene of much excitement, in consequence of the contest for a Church-rate, brought forward by the Rev. Mr. Tristram, vicar.—*Newcastle Express*.

NORTH FRODINGHAM, EAST RIDING, YORKSHIRE.—A rate has hitherto been carried without let or hindrance. But at the vestry meeting, on the 4th, a few Dissenters ventured to show themselves. Several items in the churchwardens' accounts were objected to by the Rev. J. Hutchin, Independent minister, but the vicar, who was chairman, took no notice of the objection. On the proposal of a rate of one penny in the pound, Mr. Hutchin moved, and Mr. J. Pashby, farmer, seconded the following amendment:—

That the Vestry requests the churchwardens to apply to the parishioners for subscriptions to meet the expenses of the year, and adjourns for six weeks to enable them to do so.

The amendment having been put to the vote, and lost, a poll was demanded and refused. The vicar declined to enter it upon the minutes, and threw the paper down scornfully, but he was obliged to take it up and record it. The original motion having been put and carried, a poll was again demanded and again refused. On the Monday following, however, Mr. Hutchin received a notice that the poll would be taken the next day. The result of the poll was—For the rate, thirty-seven; against it, twenty-one. It is said that three of the votes for the rate are illegal. This is the first time a poll has ever been taken in this parish on the Church-rate; and the abolitionists are greatly encouraged by the result, and hope, another year, to obtain the victory. The Rev. J. Hutchin has received a summons to appear before the magistrates on Thursday, April 18th, for non-payment of the rate made last year.

STONE, IN THE POTTERIES.—Swynfen Jervis, Esq., of Darlaston Hall, has lately distributed amongst his tenants the following circular:—

As the question of Church-rates is likely to be agitated, both in and out of Parliament, during the present year, I take this early opportunity of laying before you my opinion on that subject, earnestly hoping that, should any further attempts be made to levy a Church-rate in the parish of Stone, you will, as friends of justice and religious equality, give your votes against any such measure. The Dissenters do not call upon or expect the Church party to maintain or repair Dissenting chapels; why then, in the name of honesty and common sense, should the members of the predominant Church oblige their Dissenting fellow-subjects to contribute towards the maintenance and support of edifices which none but Churchmen ever enter? When the foregoing question has been answered satisfactorily, I shall cease to protest against this odious and tyrannical imposition, but not till then.

(Signed)

SWYNFEN JERVIS.

TORQUAY.—SIGNAL FAILURE TO IMPOSE A CHURCH-RATE.—Much excitement has been created in this town by the announcement of the Church party that they intended to ask for a Church-rate for the parishes of Tormoham and Upton. It is now six years since a rate was asked for in the town, on which occasion it was refused in vestry; the pro-rate party then demanded a poll, and got a mortifying defeat for their pains. When the contest was over the Rev. G. Harris, incumbent of Torry, for which parish the rate was asked, is said to have expressed himself very decidedly against the propriety of ever agitating the parish by another contest. Only twelve months since the Rev. R. R. Wolfe, at the Easter meeting of the parishioners, congratulated them on the peace and unanimity which prevailed in the parish, which he said was, no doubt, owing to the fact that no rate had ever been asked for, and that the voluntary principle had been found sufficient to meet the wants of the churchwardens in a financial sense. The recent meeting of "The Church Institution" in this town may partly account for the attempt on the part of the Church party to dip their hands into the pockets of the Dissenting party. The chairman of that meeting is believed to be at the bottom of this attempt to introduce strife and ill-feeling into the parish, as he is known to be sufficiently bigoted and narrow-minded for this or any other plan to promote what he deems the true interest of the mother Church. A meeting of the

*At this meeting Sir Lawrence Palk, one of the M.P.'s for South Devon, spoke in favour of the maintenance of Church-rates, on which the *Western Times* remarks:—"When he went into Parliament first he affected personal independence of the persons; he voted for the abolition of Church-rates. He was told that this would not do, that he must wear the livery of the Church, and do the bidding of the persons, if he wanted to 'continue' as the independent member of South Devon; and so grinding his teeth and tossing up his haughty nose, muttering of independence and the right of a member to retain his religious convictions, he goes back to London the 'independent member,' who is as free in his paces as the gipsy's donkey, which is hobbled and turned loose in a green lane where it browns on sufferance."

various bodies of Nonconformists has been held, at which it was determined to oppose the passing of a rate; and it is to be hoped that their effort will be aided by those Churchmen who feel the injustice of compelling Dissenters to contribute towards that from which they derive no benefit.—*Western Times*. [The vestry meeting referred to took place on Saturday. To the motion for a penny rate a Churchman moved, that considering no rate had been laid for six years, the question be adjourned. The chairman refused to put the amendment. A second amendment, moved by a Churchman, that application be made for voluntary contributions, was also refused. It was then moved that the vestry refuse a rate, which was carried by five to one. A poll was demanded by the Church party, and was to take place this day. A Torquay correspondent of the *Western Times* expresses his belief that this attempt to resuscitate Church-rates is a political move, and is connected with Mr. Disraeli's recent visit to Sir L. Palk.]

WORLE, SOMERSET.—This village was the scene of some excitement throughout Wednesday consequent upon a polling of the ratepayers upon the subject of a Church-rate. The opposition to granting a rate was started at the Easter vestry meeting by two or three respectable parishioners, not so much, we understand, with an idea of defeating the rate as for the purpose of showing that they were not content with the present law upon the subject. At the close of the poll the numbers stood—for the rate, 135 votes; against, 34; majority, 101.

VENTNOR.—In the Easter week a rate for this parish was refused by the Vestry, and its supporters demanded a poll. With regard to Ventnor, which forms an important part of the parish, without any preconcerted arrangement, without any organisation, the opponents of the obnoxious rate stood as follows—for the rate, 76 votes; against, 79 votes. The Ryde end of the parish has yet to be polled, but the question once opened, whatever may be the result of this year's struggle, it can never again be closed until the rates are entirely abolished.

THETFORD ST. PETER'S.—A second meeting of this parish was called for Thursday morning, pursuant to legal notice, for the purpose of making a Church-rate; the rate having been negatived at a previous meeting on Easter Monday. About fifty of the parishioners attended. The Rev. E. H. Gibbon occupied the chair. W. P. Salter, Esq., one of the churchwardens, said, that for the sake of settling the matter, he would propose a rate of 2d. in the pound. [Mr. Salter had previously said he would give 5s. if recourse was had to a voluntary subscription.] This proposition, after some hesitation, was seconded by Mr. John Palmer, the vestry-clerk. Mr. S. Oldman then proposed the following amendment:—"That this meeting declines to make a rate, and adjourns for six months, to enable the churchwardens to try the good faith and liberality of the friends of the Church by a voluntary subscription to meet the estimated expenses." Mr. F. Frost seconded the amendment, which may be said to have been unanimously carried, as the rev. chairman declined to put the original motion after such a demonstration. A poll was demanded.

THE CHURCH-RATE SEIZURE AT ST. MARY STOKE, IREWICH.—In our last number we stated that the property of the Rev. James Webb and Messrs. Bayley, Fison, and Mudd, had been distrained upon for a Church-rate in this parish. In reference to these seizures, Mr. Webb has published an address "to the churchwardens of the kingdom who have of late distrained for Church-rates," in which he says:—

In order to obtain this trivial sum of 2l. 15s. 1½d., we were summoned before a bench of magistrates, served with an order for payment, and then, after having been kept for weeks in a state of painful suspense and anxiety, the privacy of our homes was violated, and our property plundered to furnish the sum of six guineas to satisfy the cravings of a greedy ecclesiasticism.

Permit me to state the very peculiar circumstances, in a moral and religious point of view, of the parish in which the power of distraint has been thus exercised. The parish of St. Mary Stoke, in this town, contains some 2,300 persons, and including the inhabitants of other parishes who are intermingled with our own, the population of this district is upwards of 3,000 souls. Let us now see what provision for religious worship is made, what work is done, and with what results, by the State Church and Nonconformity, severally, among this population. "Look on this picture and on this."

Sittings in the Church, under 300; average attendance, 80; communicants, 20 to 30. What is effected for the education of the children of the poor I am not able to say, since, in promoting that object, this parish is associated with other parishes.

Now, gentlemen, we will turn to the Nonconformist side. The only Dissenting chapel in the parish is that in which I minister. It has been built almost a century. Sittings, 850; attendance, between 600 and 700; church members, 340; Sunday and day scholars, nearly 400. My congregation raises between 500l. and 600l. a-year for religious and benevolent purposes. Almost everything that is done to subvert the moral and religious welfare of the people is effected by Nonconformists, and chiefly by my own flock: not less than eighteen or twenty thousand visits are annually made by our tract-distributors, Sunday-school teachers, and district visitors. The Rev. Stephen Croft, the rector, receives from the parish, including tithes, glebe, the parsonage, and fees, at least 500l. per annum. He has held the living thirty-five years: so that for the discharge of no very arduous duties he has received the large amount of some seventeen or eighteen thousand pounds. During this period my people, I judge, have furnished an equal sum to the general cause of humanity and religion, of which but a very small proportion has been supplied by the inhabitants of St. Mary Stoke: since that portion of my congregation which is more able to contribute resides in other parts of the town. And, moreover, this parish is, comparatively, a poor one. I have dwelt in

St. Mary Stoke eighteen years, and I think I may take Charles Foose Gower, Esq., our more active churchwarden, to witness that, throughout this whole term, I have sought to further the peace and harmony of the parish; and, according to my ability, to relieve the sick and the poor, respectively of party or creed; and the return which I receive from generous Churchmen is the spoiling of my goods. The mere dribble of 33l. is wanted to maintain public worship, and instead of those who engage in this worship paying the whole of these expenses themselves, as honest men should, a man has the hardihood to insult, in my person, the numerous body of Nonconformists in this town generally, and my own congregation in particular, by taking advantage of the law, and selling my goods, and those of others, who not only have derived no benefit from your forms and services, but who conscientiously dissent from them.

Do ponder all these facts, and then tell me whether even you do not think that this is a deed which all honourable men, whether Churchmen or Dissenters, must severely condemn?—whether this is not a deed for a man to be thoroughly ashamed of all the days of his life?

THE "ESSAYS AND REVIEWS."

In reply to a letter from some of his clergy repudiating the statements expressed by the Rev. Mr. Kennard, the rector of Marnhull, the Bishop of Salisbury says:—

You will be glad to hear that I have no reason to believe that so painful an insinuation about our brethren can be justified. I will now only add, that I trust in more ways than one—certainly by the expression of the matured convictions of the members of the Church, and possibly by the exercise of legal powers—we shall be able to give good proof that the Church does not allow it to be an open question whether her ministers can honestly bring their teaching into harmony with this now notorious work.

Archdeacon Utterson having presented to the Bishop of Winchester ten addresses from Deaneries in the Archdeaconry of Surrey, his lordship has sent the following reply:—

It is with heartfelt satisfaction that I have received from the Archdeacon of Surrey addresses signed by 215 clergy of his Archdeaconry, expressive of the distress with which you have witnessed the publication of doctrines subversive of fundamental articles of our holy faith, in the book entitled "Essays and Reviews." You are not ignorant, as, indeed, you intimate, of my own opinion of the dangerous tendency of this volume, and I thank you cordially for the moral support which you have afforded me by the avowal of sentiments so entirely in agreement with my own. What measures it may be prudent to adopt in order to counteract the mischief to be apprehended from teaching so erroneous and suggestive of sceptical objections to the doctrine of the Church from the earliest ages is still the subject of grave consideration. Meanwhile, I desire to join my prayers with yours that God may vouchsafe to overrule this scandal to the good of His people, and to their more steadfast adherence to the faith once for all delivered to the saints.

The Archbishop of York, in a reply to an address which has been transmitted to him by a large body of his clergy, says:—

You will not wonder, then, that when I discovered in the volume of "Essays and Reviews" arguments which were wont to be the weapons of the avowed adversaries of our religion, used, and their use countenanced by clergymen of our Church; when I read the denial of the inspiration of Holy Scripture, of the credibility of the miracles, and of the existence of the prophecies of the Messiah's coming in its pages; when I met with the declaration that the Bible is to be subjected to each man's reason and conscience as its supreme interpreter, so that it can no longer be the rule of faith and the guide of conscience; and lastly, when I found in it a fresh claim of right to sign the Articles and assent to the Liturgy under a non-natural interpretation of them, I should have considered silence culpable, and have felt it my bounden duty to concur in the declaration lately signed by the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England, for which you tender me your united thanks. That the common sense and common honesty of the people of England will also condemn such conduct on the part of ministers of our Church, I entertain no doubt, and I feel equally confident that before long the several articles in that volume will meet with their due refutation, especially as there are so very few of the arguments adverse to the truths of the Bible and the doctrines it contains, which has not long since received their full answer.

The Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University (Dr. J. J. J.) has addressed the following reply to a memorial on the subject of "Essays and Reviews" from the "Claretical and Lay Association for the Maintenance of Evangelical Principles":—

Pembroke College, Oxford, March 23, 1861.

Rev. and dear Sir,—I have laid before the Hebdomadal Council of this University the memorial which you presented to me, requesting me "to take measures to procure or pronounce an authoritative declaration or decision, setting forth the judgment of the University of Oxford as to the truths contravened or the errors promulgated in a book entitled 'Essays and Reviews.'"

The Council has taken the memorial into its grave consideration, and I am instructed to state to you that in order to comply with the prayer of the memorialists, it would be necessary that the Council and myself should bring the subject before the Convocation of the University, a body comprehending between three and four thousand members of different ranks and professions; and we think that anything of a judicial sentence on matters of doctrine would be more satisfactory if it proceeded from a tribunal very differently constituted.

We observe that the archbishops and bishops, whose especial province it is to watch over the faith and to reprove error, have pronounced their opinion on the book in question, and are understood to have the matter still under their consideration.

We regret that the "liberty of opinion" in the Church of England which you highly value should ever be carried so far as to give pain to pious minds, but we believe that the general and warm expression of veneration for the authority of Holy Scripture and of faith in the great truths of the Gospel which the publication of

the book to which your memorial refers has called forth, tends to prove that the confidence which our Church reposes in her ministers is rarely abused.

We believe, too, as you do, that discussions such as that which has now arisen, however distressing, and however injurious in the first instance, must ultimately serve under God's providence to deepen and strengthen the foundation of the faith.—I am, rev. and dear sir, your obedient, humble servant,

FRANCIS JEPUNE, Vice-Chancellor.

The Rev. Allan G. Cornwall.

In an article on the subject of religious freedom in the Church of England, *Fraser's Magazine* says:—

Two of the prelates have distinguished themselves from the rest by the peculiar severity of their reflections on the essayists. It is worth while remarking who they are—Bishop Sumner, of Winchester, and Bishop Villiers, of Durham. We would not speak harshly of the Bishop of Winchester's nepotism. He was consecrated in the pre-puritan era, just as Lord Derby was born in the pre-scientific era. But of Bishop Villiers—who is at a loss to understand the moral state of the essayists—what can be said, except that he has scandalised his own generation by the example on a colossal scale of the vices it had outgrown? Which is the hardest to understand—the "moral state" of a prelate who outrages common decency from a gross regard to material interests, or the "moral state" of men who cling, perhaps too tenaciously, to the Church of their nurture and their country?

Besides the volume announced some weeks ago as in preparation by Mr. Mansell, Dr. Thomson, and other gentlemen, Messrs. J. H. and James Parker are about to publish a similar collection of replies to "Essays and Reviews" by the Rev. Dr. Goulburn, the Rev. Dr. Heurtley, the Rev. Dr. Irons, the Rev. H. J. Rose, and the Rev. Dr. Wordsworth. The Bishop of Oxford is to write a preface.

THE EDUCATION COMMISSION.

ECCLIASTICAL INTOLERANCE.—In their review of the state of education in England and Wales, the education commissioners take occasion to pass an emphatic censure on the practice of some Church clergymen and school committees of Church of England schools, in compelling the children of Dissenting parents to attend Church Sunday-schools, as a condition of admission to the day school:—

"The fact, to which we have referred more than once, that the children of different denominations frequently attend the same schools, shows that the schools are not conducted in a controversial spirit. It is an easy task to excite sectarian bitterness and hostility, especially amongst the ignorant, and if school managers were actuated by such feelings they would readily find means to gratify them through the agency of the teachers. It is not asserted that they do so. There are cases, it is true, where the benefit of a school is refused to children unless they will accept particular formularies or attend a particular place of worship. We greatly lament an illiberality which is equally short-sighted and unjust, and which in smaller parishes may have the effect of excluding children from the only good school. But we believe such a practice to be rare."

The commissioners go on to state that they regard it as "serious evil," that the teaching of the Church catechism, and attendance at church, should be made imperative in some schools. With respect to this evil, they are not prepared to recommend legislative interference, because they believe that it is progressively giving place to a more liberal management; but "should events prove that we are mistaken, it may become the duty of the committee of council to consider whether the public fund placed at their disposal in aid of popular education may not be administered in such a manner as will insure to the children of the poor in all places the opportunity of partaking of its benefits without exposing their parents to a violation of their religious convictions."

THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH DIFFICULTY IN EDUCATION.—The clergy of the Church of England look upon their own denomination as the established religion of the nation, and they would feel that that fact gives them a right to a leading part in the management of any general system of education established by the State. A large proportion of the Dissenters, on the one hand, disapprove of any connexion between the Church and the State, and entertain conscientious objections to conferring upon the clergy, as such, any official connexion whatever with public education. If such a position were conferred upon them by law it would be felt to be exclusive, and the exercise of the powers which it conferred would be scrutinised with jealousy, and would be a constant occasion of bad feeling and disputes. If, on the other hand, it were withheld the clergy would feel themselves aggrieved, and would consider that the State had not recognised their claims. They would thus dislike the system, and would probably be reluctant to give to it that cordial co-operation which would be so important as to be almost indispensable to its success. It is true that common schools in the United States of America and Canada succeed; but "in those countries there is no established church, and thus the difficulty as to the position of the clergy does not arise."—*Report of the Education Commissioners.*

WEST RIDING CONGREGATIONALISM.

THE UNION MEETINGS.

The annual moveable meetings of the West Riding Home Missionary Society and Congregational Union have been held in Halifax this week. The number of ministers and delegates attending has been upwards of two hundred, and they have been accommodated by the Congregationalists of Halifax and the immediate district. The proceedings opened on Monday night by a devotional service being held in Harrison-road Chapel. The Rev. R. Cuthbertson, of Cleckheaton, delivered an address on "The Promise of the Spirit," and the Rev. S. Dyson, of

Idle, on "Quench not the Spirit." On Tuesday morning the meeting of the Congregational Union took place, the Rev. Dr. Fraser, of Airedale College, presiding. The Rev. G. W. Conder, of Leeds, read an able paper on "Congregational Church worship." Discussion followed, and the Rev. Mr. Conder was unanimously requested to publish the paper forthwith, to which he consented. A resolution, expressing the deepest feelings of respect towards the Rev. H. R. Reynolds, who has removed from the West Riding to take the presidency of Cheshunt College, and who for some years was an officer in the Union, was passed to him, on the motion of the Rev. E. Mellor, seconded by John Peele Clapham, Esq., of Harrogate, and supported by the Rev. G. W. Conder. There were nearly 200 ministers and delegates of the churches present, who dined together subsequently, in the school-room connected with the church in Square-road.

On Friday morning the general committee met to make grants to beneficiary churches in Harrison-road Chapel. E. M. Wavell, Esq., the Town Clerk of Halifax, was in the chair. Grants were voted to more than fifty churches and preaching stations, amounting in the aggregate to a sum considerably exceeding 1,000l.

On Friday evening the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., of Surrey Chapel, London, preached in the church in Square-road. This was the last service of the present anniversary.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

In the afternoon of Tuesday the annual meeting of the Yorkshire Auxiliary to the Congregational Board of Education was held in Square School-room; John Crossley, Esq., in the chair.

The Rev. Mr. Olliver, the secretary, read the report, which discussed at considerable length the recently-published report of the Royal Commission, appointed in 1858 to inquire into the state of popular education in England.

This elaborate document had come to hand too recently to allow of the committee entering very fully into its statistics, or presenting in any comprehensive form conclusions to which it might ultimately lead them, but it was pregnant with matter for earnest debate between the opposing parties on this question. Its recommendations, many of them manifesting great fairness and wisdom (the principle of State interference being conceded), would, if followed out, place an immense power in the hands of the Privy Council, and would land them in the midst of a governmental scheme of education far more comprehensive, although more economical, than that of the Privy Council in its present condition. That a report including such recommendations should have received the signatures of gentlemen known to be the veteran advocates of voluntarism might appear to be a relinquishing of their position, but Mr. Miall had given the following explanation:—

It will be observed that each of the Commissioners has affixed his signature and seal to the report. But the document itself shows that the public will not be warranted by that fact in supposing that there was entire unanimity. On the question whether the State should meddle with the education of the independent poor in this country a difference of view was disclosed itself. A minority were of opinion that it should not, but after having maintained that opinion in discussion, after being outvoted, and after being permitted to record their convictions in the body of the report, they did not feel it necessary either to abandon their post, or to draw up a separate report. What they have adopted, they have avowedly adopted "in the second resort." If the State is to take part in the education of the English people, the plan recommended by the Commission is accepted by the minority as the best one feasible.

The report continued.—

It is not, however, very likely that these recommendations will ever be adopted in anything like entireness by a Parliament of landowners, who by such an adoption would be taxing themselves to supply a defect which is caused by their own want of interest and sense of duty in the matter under consideration.

The confirmation of our views by the labours of the Commission is illustrated by the following conclusions of the assistant commissioners, gentlemen appointed to inquire, with the greatest possible minuteness, into the educational details of ten districts chosen as representatives of the entire country:—

They affirm "That the present conditions of school attendance are such that three-fifths of the children resorting to elementary schools attend sufficiently to be able, with proper instruction, to learn to read and write with tolerable ease, and to cipher well enough for the purposes of their condition in life, besides being grounded in the principles of religion."

"That the difficulties and evils of any general measure of compulsion would outweigh any good results which could be expected from it under the present state of things."

After pointing out that what is required for the more successful carrying out of the education of the independent poor, is not a prolongation of the years of school life, but a more regular attendance during the period already so allotted; and after indicating what they consider would be a satisfactory amount of time to devote to a child's school life, the Assistant Commissioners add:—"There is nothing in the feelings of the parents on the subject of education, to prevent well-directed efforts to insure this amount of attendance from meeting with the greatest success." Under the influence of the report, the *Times* has been induced to admit, in a very recent leader, that "The education of the labouring poor ought gradually to become more and more independent of private benevolence and the support of the State."

The report, among its many important revelations, informs us:—

1. That the number of our juvenile population resorting to the school-house is, in proportion to the entire population (1:7.7), greater than in any other country—Prussia only excepted (1:6.26), and that we come very near to them. It must be remembered that in Prussia the attendance at school is enforced by law.

2. That more than one-third of all the week-day scholars in the kingdom are to be found in private schools, supporting their teachers by their fees.

3. That of the scholars in public schools more than two-fifths are to be found in those public schools which receive no aid from the Government.

4. That the hindrances to a wide-spread popular education do not arise from any unwillingness on the part of labouring parents to pay the weekly pence demanded of them.

5. That the two principal causes of hindrance appear to be non-residence on the part of landowners, and a misapplication of charitable funds to estimates applicable to the purposes of education. (Hear, hear.)

There is no recommendation in the report as to the duty of Inspectors in reference to the religious instruction given in the schools which they visit. It was felt by a majority of the Commissioners that the Inspectors ought not to interfere at all in

canvass proved beyond a doubt that the victory would be an easy one, and it turned out to be easier than they expected. The vestry met on Friday morning. The Rev. G. Acklom, the vicar, took the chair. The vicar said that he approved of Church-rates in the abstract, and he should approve of them in this parish if there were any probability of getting a rate, but he did not think there was the least, and he thought it was no use throwing the parish into confusion on the subject. They should be beaten by three to one. After a good deal of discussion the vicar finally determined that the notice was bad, and declared the meeting dissolved (as it did not specify the parish for which it was intended to make the rate). The meeting then adjourned, but so strong were the feelings it had raised that many of the rate-payers adjourned to the Town-hall to express their opinions of the proceedings. Mr. Cranstone was called to the chair, and after some discussion the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

That this meeting is of opinion that the rate-payers of this parish have been unjustifiably dealt with in having been called together by a notice which was known to be illegal, and hereby express its condemnation of the conduct of those who convened the vestry, and its hope that this is the last time the rate-payers will be summoned for a similar purpose.

The *Hemel Hempstead Gazette* says of this contest:—

We regret that the question was not brought to the poll, and decided once for all, as it would unquestionably have been by an overwhelming majority on the side of the opposers of the rate. It is a question whether the churchwardens are still bound by the vote of the vestry of yesterday week, and we wait, therefore, to see if new notices will be issued. But surely the supporters of the rate are now convinced, or they ought to be, that the time has gone by for Episcopalians to force other and poor denominations to repair fabrics which they do not use, and which Churchmen enjoy rent-free.

BREDON.—At a vestry meeting at Bredon, Worcestershire, on Thursday, the 4th inst., it was moved by a churchwarden, and seconded by a rate-payer,—

That the necessary funds required by the churchwardens for the necessary payments connected with their office during the year, be raised by voluntary contributions instead of making a Church-rate.

The resolution was carried without opposition.

STAMFORDHAM.—On Friday last, the ratepayers of this parish met at the vestry, to decide, by a poll, the question of having a Church-rate or no rate. By three o'clock in the afternoon there was a majority of twenty-one to have no rate, besides eighteen votes ready on the spot to be recorded for no rate, if required. By that time, however, the vicar of the parish, along with the churchwardens, in the most honourable way, withdrew from the contest, and closed the poll. During the poll, although the contest was keen, yet there was no spirit of bitterness, and the affair ended in a cool, business-like style.—*Newcastle Daily Express*.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—An excited vestry meeting has been held in this parish. On the proposal for a rate, Mr. Pavey moved, and Mr. Rossiter seconded, an amendment, that no rate be granted. Mr. Rossiter said he had told them last year that he had paid his last rate. They said "it was only a penny;" but suppose that penny was to be collected for the Pope of Rome, what an outcry there would be! He would object to pay for any man's religion who could pay for his own. He was not alone in his objections. There were some of the highest clergy of the Church of England who said that it was an unjust law. He begged to read an extract from the Rev. Mr. Bennett, of Frome, on the injustice of making the Dissenters pay the Church-rate. Mr. Rossiter having concluded his extract, said he could say Amen to the argument of Mr. Bennett, though he could not hold with many of his proceedings. Mr. Plumb said he was one that objected to pay, and refused to pay Church-rates. They said that the Government was thinking of settling the question for them. The fact was, that the Government had not settled the question, because they were told that it was not the wish of the people, and they wanted the Government to understand from that meeting that it was the wish of the people to abolish Church-rates. If they made a rate, he, for one, must refuse to pay it. The Rev. W. W. Rowley, a Churchman, thought Dissenters should be exempt.

But he would not give up the principle of Church-rates, but he thought they ought to be obligatory on those who went to church. But, coming to the present state of things, he did not think the Church-rate question would remain where it was for another twelvemonth. Another person said that it was intended by that meeting to give an idea to Government that all the town was opposed to Church-rates. In order to carry out that point, the whole town must decide it; not a few in a meeting. If that Church-rate was opposed, the whole town would be polled. The question was, would it not be better to let the matter go until the legislature decided it. He did not think that anybody would be injured by paying a shilling to that church, and he asked them if it would not be better to let the matter tide over for the present, and wait to see what Government did? He believed it would be better for the peace of the town. For himself he would grant an exemption to every Dissenter, but he would make it compulsory on every Churchman.

After further discussion, the chairman said he should be very sorry to see the question brought to a polling of the parish; the whole of the blame of that would rest with Mr. Rossiter and his friends, for they had put the question in this way, that the voice of that parish was to be added, or not to be added, against Church-rates. Did they think that they, as Churchmen, would sit quietly by under such circumstances? The chairman then put the question, when the show of hands was in favour of the rate, the numbers being—for, 24; against, 20. A poll was then demanded, the Churchmen being anxious to avoid it.

MAKING PROGRESS!—A Somersetshire correspondent writes:—"I am glad to be enabled to report progress in the Anti-Church-rate movement in this locality. The question is being discussed in villages where it never has been before, and people are generally alive to its importance."

KILMINGTON, NEAR FROME.—At the usual vestry meeting on Easter Monday, an adjournment was proposed and carried to give the churchwardens time to produce estimates, which created, says a correspondent, quite a consternation amongst the High-Church party, and called forth all their exertions to procure votes. At the adjourned meeting on the 8th inst., although the question has never before been raised, the churchwardens carried their rate by only a bare majority. This contest, says our correspondent, has given the death blow to Church-rates in this parish.

GREATHAM.—DISPUTED CHURCH-RATE.—The quiet little village of Greatham has, within the last few days, been the scene of much excitement, in consequence of the contest for a Church-rate, brought forward by the Rev. Mr. Tristram, vicar.—*Newcastle Express*.

NORTH FRODINGHAM, EAST RIDING, YORKSHIRE.—A rate has hitherto been carried without let or hindrance. But at the vestry meeting, on the 4th, a few Dissenters ventured to show themselves. Several items in the churchwardens' accounts were objected to by the Rev. J. Hutchin, Independent minister, but the vicar, who was chairman, took no notice of the objection. On the proposal of a rate of one penny in the pound, Mr. Hutchin moved, and Mr. J. Pashby, farmer, seconded the following amendment:—

That the Vestry requests the churchwardens to apply to the parishioners for subscriptions to meet the expenses of the year, and adjourns for six weeks to enable them to do so.

The amendment having been put to the vote, and lost, a poll was demanded and refused. The vicar declined to enter it upon the minutes, and threw the paper down scornfully, but he was obliged to take it up and record it. The original motion having been put and carried, a poll was again demanded and again refused. On the Monday following, however, Mr. Hutchin received a notice that the poll would be taken the next day. The result of the poll was—For the rate, thirty-seven; against it, twenty-one. It is said that three of the votes for the rate are illegal. This is the first time a poll has ever been taken in this parish on the Church-rate; and the abolitionists are greatly encouraged by the result, and hope, another year, to obtain the victory. The Rev. J. Hutchin has received a summons to appear before the magistrates on Thursday, April 18th, for non-payment of the rate made last year.

STONE, IN THE POTTERIES.—Swynfen Jervis, Esq., of Darlaston Hall, has lately distributed amongst his tenants the following circular:—

As the question of Church-rates is likely to be agitated, both in and out of Parliament, during the present year, I take this early opportunity of laying before you my opinion on that subject, earnestly hoping that, should any further attempts be made to levy a Church-rate in the parish of Stone, you will, as friends of justice and religious equality, give your votes against any such measure. The Dissenters do not call upon or expect the Church party to maintain or repair Dissenting chapels; why then, in the name of honesty and common sense, should the members of the predominant Church oblige their Dissenting fellow-subjects to contribute towards the maintenance and support of edifices which none but Churchmen ever enter? When the foregoing question has been answered satisfactorily, I shall cease to protest against this odious and tyrannical imposition, but not till then.

(Signed)

SWYNFEN JERVIS.

TORQUAY.—SIGNAL FAILURE TO IMPOSE A CHURCH-RATE.—Much excitement has been created in this town by the announcement of the Church party that they intended to ask for a Church-rate for the parishes of Tormoham and Upton. It is now six years since a rate was asked for in the town, on which occasion it was refused in vestry; the pro-rate party then demanded a poll, and got a mortifying defeat for their pains. When the contest was over the Rev. G. Harris, incumbent of Torry, for which parish the rate was asked, is said to have expressed himself very decidedly against the propriety of ever agitating the parish by another contest. Only twelve months since the Rev. R. R. Wolfe, at the Easter meeting of the parishioners, congratulated them on the peace and unanimity which prevailed in the parish, which he said was, no doubt, owing to the fact that no rate had ever been asked for, and that the voluntary principle had been found sufficient to meet the wants of the churchwardens in a financial sense. The recent meeting of "The Church Institution" in this town may partly account for the attempt on the part of the Church party to dip their hands into the pockets of the Dissenting party. The chairman of that meeting is believed to be at the bottom of this attempt to introduce strife and ill-feeling into the parish, as he is known to be sufficiently bigoted and narrow-minded for this or any other plan to promote what he deems the true interest of the mother Church. A meeting of the

*At this meeting Sir Lawrence Palk, one of the M.P.'s for South Devon, spoke in favour of the maintenance of Church-rates, on which the *Western Times* remarks:—"When he went into Parliament first he affected personal independence of the persons; he voted for the abolition of Church-rates. He was told that this would not do, that he must wear the livery of the Church, and do the bidding of the persons, if he wanted to 'continue' as the independent member of South Devon; and so grinding his teeth and tossing up his haughty nose, muttering of independence and the right of a member to retain his religious convictions, he goes back to London the 'independent member,' who is as free in his paces as the gipsy's donkey, which is hobbled and turned loose in a green lane where it browses on sufferance."

various bodies of Nonconformists has been held, at which it was determined to oppose the passing of a rate; and it is to be hoped that their effort will be aided by those Churchmen who feel the injustice of compelling Dissenters to contribute towards that from which they derive no benefit.—*Western Times*. [The vestry meeting referred to took place on Saturday. To the motion for a penny rate a Churchman moved, that considering no rate had been laid for six years, the question be adjourned. The chairman refused to put the amendment. A second amendment, moved by a Churchman, that application be made for voluntary contributions, was also refused. It was then moved that the vestry refuse a rate, which was carried by five to one. A poll was demanded by the Church party, and was to take place this day. A Torquay correspondent of the *Western Times* expresses his belief that this attempt to resuscitate Church-rates is a political move, and is connected with Mr. Disraeli's recent visit to Sir L. Palk.]

WORLE, SOMERSET.—This village was the scene of some excitement throughout Wednesday consequent upon a polling of the ratepayers upon the subject of a Church-rate. The opposition to granting a rate was started at the Easter vestry meeting by two or three respectable parishioners, not so much, we understand, with an idea of defeating the rate as for the purpose of showing that they were not content with the present law upon the subject. At the close of the poll the numbers stood—for the rate, 135 votes; against, 34; majority, 101.

VENTNOR.—In the Easter week a rate for this parish was refused by the Vestry, and its supporters demanded a poll. With regard to Ventnor, which forms an important part of the parish, without any preconceived arrangement, without any organisation, the opponents of the obnoxious rate stood as follows—for the rate, 76 votes; against, 79 votes. The Ryde end of the parish has yet to be polled, but the question once opened, whatever may be the result of this year's struggle, it can never again be closed until the rates are entirely abolished.

THETFORD ST. PETER'S.—A second meeting of this parish was called for Thursday morning, pursuant to legal notice, for the purpose of making a Church-rate; the rate having been negatived at a previous meeting on Easter Monday. About fifty of the parishioners attended. The Rev. E. H. Gibbon occupied the chair. W. P. Salter, Esq., one of the churchwardens, said, that for the sake of settling the matter, he would propose a rate of 2d. in the pound. [Mr. Salter had previously said he would give 5s. if recourse was had to a voluntary subscription.] This proposition, after some hesitation, was seconded by Mr. John Palmer, the vestry-clerk. Mr. S. Oldman then proposed the following amendment:—"That this meeting declines to make a rate, and adjourns for six months, to enable the churchwardens to try the good faith and liberality of the friends of the Church by a voluntary subscription to meet the estimated expenses." Mr. F. Frost seconded the amendment, which may be said to have been unanimously carried, as the rev. chairman declined to put the original motion after such a demonstration. A poll was demanded.

THE CHURCH-RATE SEIZURE AT ST. MARY STOKE, IPSWICH.—In our last number we stated that the property of the Rev. James Webb and Messrs. Bayley, Fison, and Mudd, had been distrained upon for a Church-rate in this parish. In reference to these seizures, Mr. Webb has published an address "to the churchwardens of the kingdom who have of late distrained for Church-rates," in which he says:—

In order to obtain this trivial sum of 2l. 15s. 1½d., we were summoned before a bench of magistrates, served with an order for payment, and then, after having been kept for weeks in a state of painful suspense and anxiety, the privacy of our homes was violated, and our property plundered to furnish the sum of six guineas to satisfy the cravings of a greedy ecclesiasticism.

Permit me to state the very peculiar circumstances, in a moral and religious point of view, of the parish in which the power of distraint has been thus exercised. The parish of St. Mary Stoke, in this town, contains some 2,300 persons, and including the inhabitants of other parishes who are intermingled with our own, the population of this district is upwards of 3,000 souls. Let us now see what provision for religious worship is made, what work is done, and with what results, by the State Church and Nonconformity, severally, among this population. "Look on this picture and on this."

Sittings in the Church, under 300; average attendance, 80; communicants, 20 to 30. What is effected for the education of the children of the poor I am not able to say, since, in promoting that object, this parish is associated with other parishes.

Now, gentlemen, we will turn to the Nonconformist side. The only Dissenting chapel in the parish is that in which I minister. It has been built almost a century. Sittings, 850; attendance, between 600 and 700; church members, 340; Sunday and day scholars, nearly 400. My congregation raises between 500l. and 600l. a-year for religious and benevolent purposes. Almost everything that is done to subserve the moral and religious welfare of the people is effected by Nonconformists, and chiefly by my own flock: not less than eighteen or twenty thousand visits are annually made by our tract-distributors, Sunday-school teachers, and district visitors. The Rev. Stephen Croft, the rector, receives from the parish, including tithes, glebe, the parsonage, and fees, at least 500l. per annum. He has held the living thirty-five years: so that for the discharge of no very arduous duties he has received the large amount of some seventeen or eighteen thousand pounds. During this period my people, I judge, have furnished an equal sum to the general cause of humanity and religion, of which but a very small proportion has been supplied by the inhabitants of St. Mary Stoke: since that portion of my congregation which is more able to contribute resides in other parts of the town. And, moreover, this parish is, comparatively, a poor one. I have dwelt in

St. Mary Stoke eighteen years, and I think I may take Charles Foote Gower, Esq., our more active churchwarden, to witness that, throughout this whole term, I have sought to further the peace and harmony of the parish; and, according to my ability, to relieve the sick and the poor, irrespectively of party or creed; and the return which I receive from *generous* Churchmen is the spoiling of my goods. The mere dribble of 33*l.* is wanted to maintain public worship, and instead of those who engage in this worship paying the whole of these expenses themselves, as honest men should, a man has the hardihood to insult, in my person, the numerous body of Nonconformists in this town generally, and my own congregation in particular, by taking advantage of the law, and seizing my goods, and those of others, who not only have derived no benefit from your forms and services, but who conscientiously dissent from them.

Do ponder all these facts, and then tell me whether even you do not think that this is a deed which all honourable men, whether Churchmen or Dissenters, must severely condemn?—whether this is not a deed for a man to be thoroughly ashamed of all the days of his life?

THE "ESSAYS AND REVIEWS."

In reply to a letter from some of his clergy repudiating the statements expressed by the Rev. Mr. Kennard, the rector of Marnhull, the Bishop of Salisbury says:—

You will be glad to hear that I have no reason to believe that so painful an insinuation about our brethren can be justified. I will now only add, that I trust in more ways than one—certainly by the expression of the matured convictions of the members of the Church, and possibly by the exercise of legal powers—we shall be able to give good proof that the Church does not allow it to be an open question whether her ministers can honestly bring their teaching into harmony with this now notorious work.

Archdeacon Utterson having presented to the Bishop of Winchester ten addresses from Deaneries in the Archdeaconry of Surrey, his lordship has sent the following reply:—

It is with heartfelt satisfaction that I have received from the Archdeacon of Surrey addresses signed by 215 clergy of his Archdeaconry, expressive of the distress with which you have witnessed the publication of doctrines subversive of fundamental articles of our holy faith, in the book entitled "Essays and Reviews." You are not ignorant, as, indeed, you intimate, of my own opinion of the dangerous tendency of this volume, and I thank you cordially for the moral support which you have afforded me by the avowal of sentiments so entirely in agreement with my own. What measures it may be prudent to adopt in order to counteract the mischief to be apprehended from teaching so erroneous and suggestive of sceptical objections to the doctrine of the Church from the earliest ages is still the subject of grave consideration. Meanwhile, I desire to join my prayers with yours that God may vouchsafe to overrule this scandal to the good of His people, and to their more steadfast adherence to the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

The Archbishop of York, in a reply to an address which has been transmitted to him by a large body of his clergy, says:—

You will not wonder, then, that when I discovered in the volume of "Essays and Reviews" arguments which were wont to be the weapons of the avowed adversaries of our religion, used, and their use countenanced by clergymen of our Church; when I read the denial of the inspiration of Holy Scripture, of the credibility of the miracles, and of the existence of the prophecies of the Messiah's coming in its pages; when I met with the declaration that the Bible is to be subjected to each man's reason and conscience as its supreme interpreter, so that it can no longer be the rule of faith and the guide of conscience; and lastly, when I found in it a fresh claim of right to sign the Articles and assent to the Liturgy under a non-natural interpretation of them, I should have considered silence culpable, and have felt it my bounden duty to concur in the declaration lately signed by the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England, for which you tender me your united thanks. That the common sense and common honesty of the people of England will also condemn such conduct on the part of ministers of our Church, I entertain no doubt, and I feel equally confident that before long the several articles in that volume will meet with their due refutation, especially as there are so very few of the arguments adverse to the truths of the Bible and the doctrines it contains, which has not long since received their full answer.

The Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University (Dr. Jeune) has addressed the following reply to a memorial on the subject of "Essays and Reviews" from the "Clerical and Lay Association for the Maintenance of Evangelical Principles":—

Pembroke College, Oxford, March 23, 1861.

Rev. and dear Sir,—I have laid before the Hebdomadal Council of this University the memorial which you presented to me, requesting me "to take measures to procure or pronounce an authoritative declaration or decision, setting forth the judgment of the University of Oxford as to the truths contravened or the errors promulgated in a book entitled 'Essays and Reviews.'"

The Council has taken the memorial into its grave consideration, and I am instructed to state to you that in order to comply with the prayer of the memorialists, it would be necessary that the Council and myself should bring the subject before the Convocation of the University, a body comprehending between three and four thousand members of different ranks and professions; and we think that anything of a judicial sentence on matters of doctrine would be more satisfactory if it proceeded from a tribunal very differently constituted.

We observe that the archbishops and bishops, whose especial province it is to watch over the faith and to reprove error, have pronounced their opinion on the book in question, and are understood to have the matter still under their consideration.

We regret that the "liberty of opinion" in the Church of England which you highly value should ever be carried so far as to give pain to pious minds, but we believe that the general and warm expression of veneration for the authority of Holy Scripture and of faith in the great truths of the Gospel which the publication of

the book to which your memorial refers has called forth, tends to prove that the confidence which our Church reposes in her ministers is rarely abused.

We believe, too, as you do, that discussions such as that which has now arisen, however distressing, and however injurious in the first instance, must ultimately serve under God's providence to deepen and strengthen the foundation of the faith.—I am, rev. and dear sir, your obedient, humble servant,

FRANCIS JEUNE, Vice-Chancellor.

The Rev. Allan G. Cornwall.

In an article on the subject of religious freedom in the Church of England, *Fraser's Magazine* says:—

Two of the prelates have distinguished themselves from the rest by the peculiar severity of their reflections on the essayists. It is worth while remarking who they are—Bishop Sumner, of Winchester, and Bishop Villiers, of Durham. We would not speak harshly of the Bishop of Winchester's nepotism. He was consecrated in the pre-purist era, just as Lord Derby was born in the pre-scientific era. But of Bishop Villiers—who is at a loss to understand the moral state of the essayists—what can be said, except that he has scandalised his own generation by the example on a colossal scale of the vices it had outgrown? Which is the hardest to understand—the "moral state" of a prelate who outrages common decency from a gross regard to material interests, or the "moral state" of men who cling, perhaps too tenaciously, to the Church of their nurture and their country?

Besides the volume announced some weeks ago as in preparation by Mr. Mansell, Dr. Thomson, and other gentlemen, Messrs. J. H. and James Parker are about to publish a similar collection of replies to "Essays and Reviews" by the Rev. Dr. Goulburn, the Rev. Dr. Heurtley, the Rev. Dr. Irons, the Rev. H. J. Rose, and the Rev. Dr. Wordsworth. The Bishop of Oxford is to write a preface.

THE EDUCATION COMMISSION.

ECCLESIASTICAL INTOLERANCE.—In their review of the state of education in England and Wales, the education commissioners take occasion to pass an emphatic censure on the practice of some Church clergymen and school committees of Church of England schools, in compelling the children of Dissenting parents to attend Church Sunday-schools, as a condition of admission to the day school:—

"The fact, to which we have referred more than once, that the children of different denominations frequently attend the same schools, shows that the schools are not conducted in a controversial spirit. It is an easy task to excite sectarian bitterness and hostility, especially amongst the ignorant, and if school managers were actuated by such feelings they would readily find means to gratify them through the agency of the teachers. It is not asserted that they do so. There are cases, it is true, where the benefit of a school is refused to children unless they will accept particular formularies or attend a particular place of worship. We greatly lament an illiberality which is equally short-sighted and unjust, and which in smaller parishes may have the effect of excluding children from the only good school. But we believe such a practice to be rare."

The commissioners go on to state that they regard it as "serious evil," that the teaching of the Church catechism, and attendance at church, should be made imperative in some schools. With respect to this evil, they are not prepared to recommend legislative interference, because they believe that it is progressively giving place to a more liberal management; but "should events prove that we are mistaken, it may become the duty of the committee of council to consider whether the public fund placed at their disposal in aid of popular education may not be administered in such a manner as will insure to the children of the poor in all places the opportunity of partaking of its benefits without exposing their parents to a violation of their religious convictions."

THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH DIFFICULTY IN EDUCATION.—The clergy of the Church of England look upon their own denomination as the established religion of the nation, and they would feel that that fact gives them a right to a leading part in the management of any general system of education established by the State. A large proportion of the Dissenters, on the one hand, disapprove of any connexion between the Church and the State, and entertain conscientious objections to conferring upon the clergy, as such, any official connexion whatever with public education. If such a position were conferred upon them by law it would be felt to be exclusive, and the exercise of the powers which it conferred would be scrutinised with jealousy, and would be a constant occasion of bad feeling and disputes. If, on the other hand, it were withheld the clergy would feel themselves aggrieved, and would consider that the State had not recognised their claims. They would thus dislike the system, and would probably be reluctant to give to it that cordial co-operation which would be so important as to be almost indispensable to its success. . . . It is true that common schools in the United States of America and Canada succeed; but "in those countries there is no established church, and thus the difficulty as to the position of the clergy does not arise."—*Report of the Education Commissioners.*

WEST RIDING CONGREGATIONALISM.

THE UNION MEETINGS.

The annual moveable meetings of the West Riding Home Missionary Society and Congregational Union have been held in Halifax this week. The number of ministers and delegates attending has been upwards of two hundred, and they have been accommodated by the Congregationalists of Halifax and the immediate district. The proceedings opened on Monday night by a devotional service being held in Harrison-road Chapel. The Rev. R. Cathbertson, of Cleckheaton, delivered an address on "The Promise of the Spirit," and the Rev. S. Dyson, of

Idle, on "Quench not the Spirit." On Tuesday morning the meeting of the Congregational Union took place, the Rev. Dr. Fraser, of Airedale College, presiding. The Rev. G. W. Conder, of Leeds, read an able paper on "Congregational Church worship." Discussion followed, and the Rev. Mr. Conder was unanimously requested to publish the paper forthwith, to which he consented. A resolution, expressing the deepest feelings of respect towards the Rev. H. R. Reynolds, who has removed from the West Riding to take the presidency of Cheshunt College, and who for some years was an officer in the Union, was passed to him, on the motion of the Rev. E. Mellor, seconded by John Peele Clapham, Esq., of Harrogate, and supported by the Rev. G. W. Conder. There were nearly 200 ministers and delegates of the churches present, who dined together subsequently, in the school-room connected with the church in Square-road.

On Friday morning the general committee met to make grants to beneficiary churches in Harrison-road Chapel. E. M. Wavell, Esq., the Town Clerk of Halifax, was in the chair. Grants were voted to more than fifty churches and preaching stations, amounting in the aggregate to a sum considerably exceeding 1,000*l.*

On Friday evening the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., of Surrey Chapel, London, preached in the church in Square-road. This was the last service of the present anniversary.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

In the afternoon of Tuesday the annual meeting of the Yorkshire Auxiliary to the Congregational Board of Education was held in Square School-room; John Crossley, Esq., in the chair.

The Rev. Mr. Olliver, the secretary, read the report, which discussed at considerable length the recently-published report of the Royal Commission appointed in 1858 to inquire into the state of popular education in England.

This elaborate document had come to hand too recently to allow of the committee entering very fully into its statistics, or presenting in any comprehensive form conclusions to which it might ultimately lead them, but it was pregnant with matter for earnest debate between the opposing parties on this question. Its recommendations, many of them manifesting great fairness and wisdom (the principle of State interference being conceded), would, if followed out, place an immense power in the hands of the Privy Council, and would land them in the midst of a governmental scheme of education far more comprehensive, although more economical, than that of the Privy Council in its present condition. That a report including such recommendations should have received the signatures of gentlemen known to be the veteran advocates of voluntarism might appear to be a relinquishing of their position, but Mr. Miall had given the following explanation:—

It will be observed that each of the Commissioners has affixed his signature and seal to the report. But the document itself shows that the public will not be warranted by that fact in supposing that there was entire unanimity. On the question whether the State should meddle with the education of the independent poor in this country a difference of view soon disclosed itself. A minority were of opinion that it should not, but after having maintained that opinion in discussion, after being outvoted, and after being permitted to record their convictions in the body of the report, they did not feel it necessary either to abandon their post, or to draw up a separate report. What they have adopted, they have avowedly adopted "in the second resort." If the State is to take part in the education of the English people, the plan recommended by the Commission is accepted by the minority as the best one feasible.

The report continued.—

It is not, however, very likely that these recommendations will ever be adopted in anything like entirety by a Parliament of landowners, who by such an adoption would be taxing themselves to supply a defect which is caused by their own want of interest and sense of duty in the matter under consideration.

The confirmation of our views by the labours of the Commission is illustrated by the following conclusions of the assistant commissioners, gentlemen appointed to inquire, with the greatest possible minuteness, into the educational details of ten districts chosen as representatives of the entire country:—

They affirm "That the present conditions of school attendance are such that three-fifths of the children resorting to elementary schools attend sufficiently to be able, with proper instruction, to learn to read and write with tolerable ease, and to cipher well enough for the purposes of their condition in life, besides being grounded in the principles of religion."

"That the difficulties and evils of any general measure of compulsion would outweigh any good results which could be expected from it under the present state of things."

After pointing out that what is required for the more successful carrying out of the education of the independent poor, is not a prolongation of the years of school life, but a more regular attendance during the period already so allotted; and after indicating what they consider would be a satisfactory amount of time to devote to a child's school life, the Assistant Commissioners add:—"There is nothing in the feelings of the parents on the subject of education, to prevent well-directed efforts to insure this amount of attendance from meeting with the greatest success." Under the influence of the report, the *Times* has been induced to admit, in a very recent leader, that "The education of the labouring poor ought gradually to become more and more independent of private benevolence and the support of the State."

The report, among its many important revelations, informs us:—

1. That the number of our juvenile population resorting to the school-house is, in proportion to the entire population (1:7.7), greater than in any other country—Prussia only excepted (1:6.26), and that we come very near to them. It must be remembered that in Prussia the attendance at school is enforced by law.

2. That more than one-third of all the week-day scholars in the kingdom are to be found in private schools, supporting their teachers by their fees.

3. That of the scholars in public schools more than two-fifths are to be found in those public schools which receive no aid from the Government.

4. That the hindrances to a wide-spread popular education do not arise from any unwillingness on the part of labouring parents to pay the weekly pence demanded of them.

5. That the two principal causes of hindrance appear to be non-residence on the part of landowners, and a misapplication of charitable funds to the purposes of education. (Hear, hear.)

There is no recommendation in the report as to the duty of Inspectors in reference to the religious instruction given in the schools which they visit. It was felt by a majority of the Commissioners that the Inspectors ought not to interfere at all in

this matter or to examine into its conduct, but in deference to the strong wishes of the minority on that question it was thought best to refrain from any specific recommendation on the subject.

We cannot further pursue the statements of this valuable and evidently painstaking report. In quitting this part of our subject we must concur with Mr. Miall, that "we see nothing in them to disturb the opinion we have always maintained, but much, very much, to vindicate and confirm it." And albeit the Commissioners have put forth an elaborate scheme the object of which is to extend and equalise State assistance in the education of the poor, we have the utmost confidence that the tendency of their report will be rather to discourage interference with the voluntary principle than to supersede its valuable efforts. "In short," says this member of the Commission, "the free educationists in our judgment will stand on a higher level in public estimation in consequence of the labours of the Education Commission."

Since the opening of Homerton College the board had sent out 423 teachers for juveniles and infants. Of this number 25 had been sent into Yorkshire. During the last year 36 left the college to enter upon the work for which they had been preparing. The model school included between 700 and 800 scholars. The receipts from fees had been 451*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.* About 300*l.* was required to meet the current expenses, and by raising a fund of 2,000*l.* every object of the institution could be carried out. The chairman, as treasurer to the auxiliary, read the financial statement. The income had been about 300*l.*

Mr. T. E. PLINT briefly moved the adoption of the report, and expressed his regret that Mr. Miall had signed it.

The Rev. Dr. FRASER seconded the motion. He said that, in common with many of his brethren, he felt it required the consciousness of principle to support them in the advocacy of voluntarism. The Government system was much more easy—it was more pleasant and agreeable to go to a Government official and get money, than to go from door to door to solicit subscriptions—and if he were to suggest any addition to the report, it would be that something should be done to enlighten the churches of the West Riding with reference to the principles for which they contended.

The motion having been carried,

Mr. KENION moved the resolution we have quoted in our Summary. In an able speech he congratulated the meeting on the extension of the voluntary principle, and on the fact that those who formerly opposed them were becoming convinced that it was the only principle which could be safely adopted. At one time the friends of voluntary education were derided as the opponents of education amongst the working classes; but a different conviction was obtaining ground, and it was now admitted by their opponents that there were great evils attendant upon all Government systems of education. He was satisfied that the friends of voluntarism alone stood upon a rock, and he rejoiced to learn that their principles were slowly but surely impressing themselves upon the minds of all thinking men. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Mr. RICHARDS, of Howden, seconded the resolution, and pointed out the difficulties with which the friends of voluntary education in rural districts had to contend. Other denominations took the Government grants—the voluntaries could not compete with them—and the result was that their children were educated in other schools, and gradually drawn away into other churches. He confirmed the view expressed by Mr. Kenion, that it was not the children of the poor who were educated in the Government schools, but the children of shopkeepers and of the various classes below the independent and professional classes. At one of these schools at Hull there were the children of four or five aldermen.

Mr. Alderman BROWN, of Bradford, contended that the advance which had taken place in the education of the people during the last fourteen years, was due not to voluntarism exclusively, but equally to the Government system, which, by making grants in aid, had given a great impulse to voluntary effort, and at the same time secured a sounder education. Other denominations were establishing schools, whilst they were doing comparatively little, and where would they be as a denomination in the next generation? They could only meet the difficulties by establishing schools of their own, and it might be necessary for them to consider whether some arrangement should not be made for taking the Government allowance.

Mr. KENION said that the progress of education was greater before the Government grants were made than it had been since. He would say, with Mr. Chester, "That instead of constantly screaming to the Government with the cry of the two daughters of the horse-leech, 'Give, give,' we should exert ourselves in our several spheres to render education independent of the control, because independent of the aid, of the State, and to lay the foundations of the new authority which may hereafter replace the 'Educational Department.'"

Mr. OLIVER said that the progress of education during the fourteen years preceding the grants was from 1 in 17½ to 1 in 11½, and it had since progressed to 1 in 7½.

The CHAIRMAN said he was very much inclined to endorse the opinion that the public mind was becoming more desirous to free education from the trammels of Government. At the same time he agreed with Mr. Brown that what the Government had given had done good,—it had perhaps more fully developed the system of education in the country, but he believed the labouring people were becoming more and more convinced of the advantages of a thoroughly independent system. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was then carried, and various other resolutions were adopted.

HOME MISSIONARY MEETING.

The Home Missionary Meeting was held on Tuesday evening in Zion Chapel; John Crossley, Esq., presided, and there was a good attendance. The meeting having been opened with prayer,

The Rev. J. H. MORGAN (General Secretary) read the report, which gave a careful review of the society's operations, its present position and prospects. In almost every department some advancement had been made. Besides rendering material assistance in the maintenance of more than thirty pastors, and securing the regular preaching of the Gospel and the administration of Divine ordinances at some fifty principal stations and at more than sixty branch stations, which were surrounded by a population of more than 200,000, the operations of the society resulted in what might be regarded as tantamount in respect to numerical growth to the addition to the denomination every year of a new congregation, of a new church, and of a new Sabbath school, each of more than the average size.

During the year the very large sum of 4,143*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* was raised for all purposes at the missionary stations, and a satisfactory effort had been made to increase the stipends of the agents.

The CHAIRMAN read the cash account, from which it appeared that the income of the society had been 1,140*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*, and that grants had been made to the amount of 1,122*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* There was a balance of 539*l.* in hand at the commencement of the year, and the balance this year would be about 560*l.* He made an earnest appeal for increased subscriptions, and commended the society to the support of the Congregational body.

The Rev. R. BRUCE moved the first resolution, appealing for increased aid. He said that upon the whole they were too stationary, and were not doing for home evangelisation all they might do.

The Rev. W. AXFORD, Clayton West, seconded the motion, and gave some interesting details as to the society's operations in his district.

The Rev. H. SANDARS, of Wakefield, moved the second resolution in an able speech, in exposition and defence of Congregational principles:—

That this meeting, acknowledging with thankfulness the grace which God has vouchsafed for many ages to the pastors and churches of the Congregational order, in enabling them to adhere to the Gospel in its divine simplicity, to maintain the purity of Christian fellowship, to uphold the spirituality of the kingdom of Jesus on earth, and to practise in every department of the religious life "the liberty with which Christ has made His people free," would avow its deep conviction that the times passing over us render it increasingly necessary that there should be an intelligent appreciation of the mission and distinctive principles of Congregationalism on the part of all nominally identified with it, as well as a firm and faithful enunciation of their importance and truth before the public at large.

The Rev. Mr. HUSTWICK, of Stanningley, seconded the resolution in an eloquent speech, and it was adopted.

Some formal resolutions concluded the proceedings.

IRISH SUNDAY SCHOOLS.—The Sunday School Society for Ireland held its fifty-first annual meeting at the Rotunda in Dublin last week, when the Earl of Roden occupied the chair. The total number of schools reported is 2,705; of scholars, 233,390; and of gratuitous teachers, 21,302. The Bible is read by 153,969, of whom 67,926 are adults above the age of 15. Within two years there has been an increase of 52 schools, 18,138 scholars, and 1,830 teachers in the province of Ulster, a result which is ascribed to the late revivals.

PROPOSED INQUIRY INTO ENDOWED SCHOOLS.—Mr. Grant Duff has given notice that on Tuesday, April 23, he would move an address praying her Majesty to issue her Royal Commission to inquire into the state, discipline, and revenues of the Colleges of Eton, Winchester, and Westminster, as well as of all endowed schools in England and Wales in which the Latin or Greek languages are taught, with a view to ascertain whether the great resources of these institutions may not be made more serviceable to education and learning.

THE METHODISTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND SLAVERY.—The Methodist Conference at Philadelphia have adopted the report of the Committee of ten on the State of the Church, repealing the new chapter on slavery inserted to the Discipline at the last Conference, leaving to future Conferences to make their own regulations on the subject. The Conference also concurred in the resolutions of the Baltimore Conference, requesting the General Conference at its next session to repeal the chapter on slavery, and, instead of their own, empowering each annual Conference within the bounds of which the institution exists, to make their own regulations. They also adopted an address to the Methodists of Delaware and the Eastern Shores of Maryland and Virginia, assuring them of their profoundest sympathies in the present state of disquietude and agitated condition of the country.

THE IRISH UNITARIANS AND THE CENSUS.—The census papers have, we understand, been filled up entirely without uniformity by the Unitarians of Belfast and the neighbourhood, and even an approximation to the numerical strength of that denomination has thereby been rendered impossible. Many have returned themselves as "Unitarians," and very many as "Non-Subscribing Presbyterians"; whilst others have enrolled their names under the general designation of "Presbyterians." We have been favoured with a copy of the enumerators' abstract, in which the "Religious Profession" column is subdivided into nine heads—viz., Established Church, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, Methodists, Independents, Baptists, Society of Friends (or Quakers), Jews, All other Persuasions. Those who have signed as "Unitarians" will, therefore, most pro-

bably, be classed under the last head: those who have signed as "Presbyterians" will be reckoned accordingly, and the "Non-Subscribing Presbyterians" may be entered either under the one head or the other, as the compilers may determine. No return of the number of the Unitarian denomination will, therefore, be possible; and it does not appear that any return of that section of the Church was either contemplated or provided for.—*Northern Whig.*

CLERICAL INTOLERANCE.—A respectable young man named Atkinson, clerk in a merchant's office in West Hartlepool, is a member of the choir of Christ Church, of which the Rev. J. G. Rowe is incumbent. About four months ago Mr. Atkinson took to himself for a wife a respectable young woman, and the marriage was duly solemnised at the registrar's office, in the usual form prescribed by law. Since that time he has continued to attend the choir as usual, and has in every way conducted himself in a proper and becoming manner. Imagine his surprise on receiving, a day or two ago, a letter, of which the following is a copy:—"West Hartlepool, March 28th, 1861. My dear Sir,—I have heard to my great sorrow the other day that you had lately formed a union at the registrar's office. As such union, whatever it may be in the eyes of the law, is no marriage in the eye of the Church, you will see how impossible it is with any propriety for you to retain your place in the choir. I shall, therefore, inform Mr. Howard (the choir-master) that you will no longer attend; but I shall not assign any reason except you wish. I am truly sorry for you, having hoped that you would not rush into a solemn engagement like this, utterly regardless of God's blessing. May God bring you both to see your error, and that such a mode of union, though fitting for the infidel, cannot benefit the Christian. Yet I am now, and always shall be, your well-wisher, J. G. ROWE.—Mr. Atkinson."—*Sunderland Herald.*

Religious Intelligence.

THE SPECIAL SERVICES FOR THE WORKING CLASSES.—The series of special services at the Pavilion, Whitechapel, was closed on Sunday evening with a sermon by the Rev. A. B. Suter, Incumbent of All Saints, Spitalfields. The text was Psalm lxxxvii. 6, "The Lord shall count when he writeth up the people, that this man was born there." The course was closed by an affectionate and earnest invitation to those who had attended, to come next Sunday to the house of God and deepen their impressions. The churches and chapels in the neighbourhood report an increase of worshippers. The preachers at the other theatres were as follows:—Standard, Rev. J. Sidney Hall; Sadler's Wells, Rev. J. B. Ingram and Rev. J. Rodgers; Victoria, Rev. W. Essery and Rev. John Graham. The services at St. James's Hall continue. On Sunday last the Rev. Newman Hall preached in the morning, and the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel in the evening.

THAME, OXON.—The Rev. Charles Hardie has resigned his charge as pastor of the Congregational Church in Brill, Bucks, where he has laboured successfully among a strongly-attached people, who deeply regret his removal from them, and has accepted a cordial and earnest invitation to become pastor of the Independent Church in Thame, Oxon, where he intends, D.V., to commence his stated pastoral duties on Sunday, the 21st inst.

OAKHAM, RUTLAND.—On Thursday, April 11, the first stone of a new chapel for the Independent congregation, of which Rev. John C. Fairfax is pastor, was laid by Rev. Thomas Mays, of Ashby de la Zouch, a former member of the church, and a native of the vicinity. The Revs. J. Jenkinson, of Oakham; J. Twidale, of Melton; and J. Devine, of Wymondham, also united in the service on the site; and Rev. Johnson Barker, L.L.B., of Leicester, preached in the evening in the old chapel to a good congregation.

IPSWICH.—The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new schools about to be built in connexion with Tacket-street Chapel, Ipswich, was performed on Friday afternoon by the Mayor, E. Grimwade, Esq. The site of the schools is at the back of the chapel, adjoining the old burial ground. The building will be more for use than ornament, and is to be of red brick with a high pitched roof of plain tiles, with sundry gables. The extreme length will be 92 feet, and the building is to contain a principal school-room, 60 feet by 35, class rooms, 14 feet 6 inches by 8 feet 6 inches, and an infant class room, 24 feet by 14½ feet. The architect is Mr. Barnes, and the builder Mr. Pells, whose contract amounts to 727*l.* The Rev. E. Jones is the pastor of the congregation.

RAFFLES JUBILEE TESTIMONIAL.—We have great pleasure in giving publicity to the following extract from a circular that is being issued on this subject:—"Dr. Raffles has just entered upon the fiftieth year of his ministry, but in consequence of bodily infirmities has relinquished the pastorate he has so long and honourably held. To signify their appreciation of his unchallenged consistency and unwearied zeal, his people have guaranteed him an annuity of 400*l.* But the labours of Dr. Raffles have not been confined to Liverpool; he has been throughout his ministerial life the generous and efficient helper of many churches. Such being the case, it is felt that he ought not to retire without some expression of the affectionate esteem in which he is held by those who have sought his counsels, or availed themselves of his ever-welcome services. A committee has been formed of gentlemen residing in Manchester and its vicinity to raise a fund for the founding of a Raffles'

Scholarship in Lancashire College, and the purchase of a Raffles' Section of the Library in that Institution; the purpose has been mentioned to the doctor, and meets with his cordial approval." Dr. Raffles' late congregation in Liverpool are also raising a Memorial Fund, to be appropriated to the erection of Almshouses for poor and aged members of the church in Great George-street Chapel. The secretary of the fund is Mr. R. M. Davies, of Oldham.

PRESTON.—FAREWELL SERMON OF THE REV. R. SLATE.—We reported, a short time ago, that this venerable minister had announced his intention of resigning the pastorate of the Congregational Church, Grimshaw-street, Preston, which he has held during the last thirty-one years. He preached his last sermon, in connexion with his official relations to the society and congregation over which he has had charge for so lengthened a period, on Sunday evening last, in the above-named place of worship. There was a numerous attendance. The rev. gentleman chose, as the basis of his discourse, the words "Glorious things are spoken of thee, O City of God," Psalm lxxvii. 3.—*Preston Guardian*.

NEEDHAM MARKET, SUFFOLK.—On Good Friday a very crowded tea-meeting, of some 600 persons, was held in the Congregational Chapel of this place, under the presidency of E. Grimwade, Esq., mayor of Ipswich. Speeches were delivered by the Rev. John Gay, of Ipswich, Rev. Mr. Hart, Baptist minister, Needham Market, Mr. Smith, builder, of Ipswich, Mr. Diaper, of Stowmarket, Mr. J. T. Bagley, and other friends. In the course of the evening one of the speakers stated that a handsome lounging-chair had been presented lately to Mrs. Jenkins by a very few ladies as a small tribute of their love and regard towards her. Mr. Southgate then, on behalf of a few members of the church and congregation, presented Mr. Jenkins with a purse containing twenty-five sovereigns, as a small tribute of respect for him as their pastor during the fifteen months he has been amongst them. The rev. gentleman suitably acknowledged the testimonial.

DOWLAIS.—IVOR INDEPENDENT CHAPEL.—April 1, 2, and 3, very interesting services were held in connexion with the opening of the above chapel. On Wednesday evening a prayer-meeting was held, when prayer was offered and addresses delivered by the Revs. J. Hughes, B. Williams, J. T. Davies, of Merthyr, and several other friends from the place. On Tuesday evening, Rev. J. O. Hill, of Hereford, preached in English, and Rev. D. Jones, B.A., Cardiff, in Welsh. The chapel on this occasion was crowded, and many went home unable to gain admittance. Wednesday morning, at eleven, Rev. David Thomas, B.A., Bristol, preached. At two Rev. A. McAulane, Newport. In the evening, at seven, Rev. A. McAulane in English, and Rev. Thomas Rees, Beaufort, in Welsh. All the sermons were characterized with great power and earnestness, and told wonderfully on the audience. The Revs. J. Hughes, D. Roberts, B. Williams, Aaron Jones, W. P. Davies, and J. Evans, B.A., took part in the devotional services of the day. Collections towards the building fund was made after each service, which amounted to a considerable sum, of which Messrs. W. D. and H. O. Wills, Bristol, sent 20*l.* in addition to the 50*l.* they very kindly gave at the laying of the foundation-stone.

EYTHORNE.—RECOGNITION SERVICES.—On Good Friday, the recognition services in connexion with the settlement of the Rev. C. W. Skemp, over the Baptist Church, at Eythorne, took place under the most auspicious circumstances. The day being fine and the weather mild, numbers of friends from Ramsgate, Sandwich, Deal, Dover, Folkestone, and other places were present. The chapel was crowded on each occasion, and the addresses and proceedings seemed to afford unmixed pleasure to the auditory. The afternoon service commenced at two o'clock. The Rev. C. Kirtland, of Canterbury, having read 1 Timothy, 3 chap., and offered prayer, proceeded to explain the nature of the proceedings, and concluded by asking the pastor elect to give a statement of his doctrinal views and the circumstances which led to his acceptance of the pastorate at Eythorne. The Rev. C. W. Skemp then delivered a very lucid and satisfactory statement of his religious sentiments, &c. The Rev. A. Ibberson, of Dover, then offered the recognition prayer, and the Rev. B. C. Etheridge, of Ramsgate, delivered an address on "What the Church has a right to expect from the Pastor." Owing to the large attendance the friends were obliged to have tea in the chapel and on two occasions; more than 480 partook of the refreshments provided. At six o'clock the congregation again assembled. The service was opened by the Rev. J. T. Bartram, of Deal, who read Colossians 1 chap. and offered prayer. Excellent addresses were then delivered—on, "The Church's duty to the Pastor," by the Rev. C. Kirtland; "The Church Members' obligations to each other," by the Rev. D. Jones, B.A., of Folkestone; and "The Church's duty to the Sabbath-school," by the Rev. J. T. Bartram. The service was then closed in the same manner as in the afternoon.

CONGREGATIONAL PASTORS' INSURANCE AID SOCIETY.—The seventh anniversary of the above society was held at the Congregational Library on Monday evening, April 8, Edward Swaine, Esq., the treasurer, presiding. After prayer had been offered by the Rev. J. Bramall, and an opening address from the chairman, the secretary read the report. Since the formation of the society forty-six ministers have been assisted. Some few had only received a single grant, enabling them to save their policies under some trying emergencies; others were now carrying on the insurances for themselves; but more than

thirty are regularly aided by the society. One widow is at present receiving 40*l.* per annum from an insurance which this society enabled her late husband to effect; and the total amount of prospective annuities secured by the other insurances is 1,050*l.* per annum. The report stated that applications for assistance were now becoming more numerous, and pleaded earnestly for increased subscriptions, without which the committee cannot extend their responsibilities. The meeting was afterwards addressed by the Revs. T. James, Dr. Campbell, J. H. Wilson, J. B. Ingram, W. Tyler, R. Ashton, R. Littler, John Churchill, Esq., &c., &c. The Rev. W. O'Neill spoke from personal knowledge of the high value the grantees attach to the society, and of an instance in which a minister about, through necessity, to abandon his policy, had been enabled to save it, and was still continuing it through the aid granted to him by the committee. All the speakers evinced deep interest in the society, and a very strong conviction of its great value. A lengthened and highly interesting discussion took place on the best means of making it more generally known and promoting its more extended usefulness.

HELP FOR THE FALLEN.—The promoters of the midnight meeting movement, in their persevering attempts to rescue the fallen and outcast women in the metropolis, resolved to convene a meeting of probably the lowest class of these degraded ones. It having been decided that the poor women of Ratcliffe-highway and Shadwell should share in the privileges which this movement is now conferring on their sisters in other parts of London—that of being assembled, and after refreshment, having an opportunity of hearing the good news of salvation—Thursday night, the 11th inst., was fixed for this gathering, in the Sailors' Institute, Mercers-street, Shadwell. On the previous Sunday evening, a member of the committee visited the neighbourhood, and distributed 200 cards of invitation in the streets and public-houses, and through the kindness of Sergeant Cox, and a private of the police who accompanied him, this member was enabled to visit a large number of the lowest houses in the neighbourhood. A large distribution of cards was also made by several sailors and missionaries working in connexion with the British and Foreign Sailors' Society, on the night of the 10th inst., whilst a large band went forth at nine o'clock on the night of the meeting, into the neighbourhood to persuade the poor women to come in. Before eleven o'clock upwards of 400 had accepted the invitation, and were seated comfortably at the various tables partaking of the repast which had been provided for them. It was a deeply affecting scene to behold so large a number of these degraded ones, who are daily associated with the lowest scenes of infamy, separated for a brief while from sinful associations, and holding conversation with the friends who presided at the various tables. The repast being ended, the singular congregation were addressed by Miss Shearman, a lady who has similarly officiated in Liverpool and elsewhere, Mrs. Ford, Mr. Fieldwick, secretary of the Sailors' Society, and another gentleman. The greatest decorum prevailed during the whole of the time of the meeting, and many listened with the deepest earnestness while the speakers, in kind and persuasive language, set before them all the miseries of their sinful state, and pointed to a way of escape.

STRETTFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL AND SCHOOLS, MANCHESTER.—On Good Friday an interesting ceremony was performed at Stretford, viz., the laying of the corner-stone of a new Congregational Chapel, to which new schools will be attached. The site chosen for the new building is that upon which the old one stood, in Chester-road; and, when finished, the chapel will be an architectural embellishment to the village. It is to be of the Gothic style, and the outer walls are to be composed of Yorkshire stone with Hollingstone dressings. The interior of the chapel will be constructed to accommodate 450 persons. The cost will be 2,200*l.*, of which 1,600*l.* or 1,700*l.* have been subscribed; and the remainder must be collected before the chapel is finished. During the construction of the new building, the congregation worship in a large room in King-street, Stretford. The schools will be built of brick, and will contain six class-rooms, besides one for infants. The cost of these will be 400*l.* or 500*l.* At three o'clock in the afternoon of Good Friday, a large number of persons, including many ladies and gentlemen, assembled around the corner-stone, and were soon joined by the chapel choir and school, the minister (the Rev. John Simpson), and several gentlemen and ministers from Manchester, including the Rev. Dr. M'Kerrow, the Rev. Joseph Parker, the Rev. David Horne, the Rev. P. Thomson, &c. The proceedings were commenced with a hymn, followed by prayer, offered by the Rev. Dr. M'Kerrow. The Rev. John Simpson then addressed the meeting, explaining the object of the gathering. Mr. Spencer said a bottle would be placed in a cavity in the stone containing a parchment similar to the one found in the old building; also, in addition, copies of the *Manchester Examiner* and *Times*, *Manchester Guardian*, *Nonconformist*, &c., together with some coins of the realm of small value. Mr. Joseph Baker, the honorary secretary, then presented a silver trowel, bearing an appropriate inscription, to Mr. John Rylands, on behalf of the building committee. Mr. Rylands having laid the stone in the usual form, briefly addressed the assembly, confining his remarks to the spiritual advantages which would be derived from the erection of the new sanctuary. Another hymn was then sung, and addresses were afterwards delivered by the Rev. David Horne and other ministers. A tea-party was held in the New Hall, at five o'clock, when the Rev.

Dr. M'Kerrow presided, and various ministers delivered addresses.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday the House sat for a very short time, adjourning a little before half-past five o'clock, without transacting any business of public interest.

PROPOSED INCREASE OF BISHOPS.

On Friday Lord LITTLETON gave notice that on the 18th inst. he would move that the Subdivision of Dioceses Bill should be referred to a select committee.

DRUSE PRISONERS AT BEYROUT.

The Earl of CARNARVON inquired whether any decision had been come to by the Turkish Government in regard to the Druse chiefs in Beyrout.

Lord WODEHOUSE said that there were eight Druse chiefs in a place called Bokshara, and eleven who surrendered at Beyrout. With regard to the former, it was intended to exercise a large measure of clemency towards them; with regard to the latter, a difference of opinion existed between the commissioners of the great powers, and it had been agreed to refer the matter to Constantinople for the decision of the Porte.

In answer to the Earl of Derby, Lord WODEHOUSE said that Said Bey was among those whom the French, Russian, and Prussian commissioners thought ought to be executed.

The Mutiny Bill and the Marine Mutiny Bill were read a second time.

The House adjourned at a quarter to six.

On Monday the Lunacy Regulation Bill passed through committee.

The Mutiny Bill, the Marine Mutiny Bill, the Exchequer-bills Bill, and the Consolidated Fund (3,000,000*l.*) Bill passed through committee.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to six o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

At the day sitting of the House on Wednesday a large number of petitions in favour of the Borough Franchise Bill were presented, some from corporations, some from public meetings, and others from workpeople in the employment of various firms. The petition from Bradford had 20,125 signatures; that from Leeds 23,574.

Mr. BAINES then rose to move the second reading of his Borough Franchise Bill, the object of which is to reduce the qualification in boroughs to 6*l.* He stated that the principle of the measure had been recommended from the Throne, and had received the assent of both sides of the House; and at the last general election had received virtually the assent of the people of England. He was met by two preliminary objections: first, that such a reform should be introduced by the Government; and secondly, that it should form part of a general comprehensive scheme. His reply was that such a measure had been introduced by the Government, while the system of carrying partial Parliamentary Reforms had been adopted for some years past. Every day's experience showed that it was possible to deal practically with the partial amendment of the law, when it was not possible to carry large and comprehensive measures. In regard to this very question there were instances of such amendments, such as the abolition of the property qualification, the improvement of the registration, the alteration in the mode of taking polls, besides measures referring to corrupt practices at elections, to say nothing of the disfranchisement of Gropound, and the addition in the number of members for the county of York, before the first Reform Bill; the examples of this kind of legislation amounting to not less than twenty. As to the assertion that the country was not asking for such a measure, it was not now so true as when it was made, looking to the increase in the number of meetings and petitions in favour of reform which had recently taken place. He proceeded to contend that it would be wiser to deal with this question in quiet times than in times of agitation and disturbance; and he fully believed that the moment had arrived when this subject should be settled. He contended that in the thirty years which had elapsed since the passing of the Reform Bill, notwithstanding the vast progress in material advantages and population, the growth of intelligence had far exceeded the increase of wealth and prosperity; and the result of his argument was that a 6*l.* franchise now represented a class of men quite equal in all qualifications to those to whom the 10*l.* franchise was given. The number of voters was stated to be now 442,410, and the proposed lowering of the franchise would add 211,269, making the total number 653,679. This would be liable to deductions from several causes, which would reduce the number added to 200,000; and if freemen and scot-and-lot voters, already on the register, were taken at 20,000, that would make the number 180,000. Of these the working classes would contribute only 170,000, or 26 per cent. on the whole borough franchise. He argued that the Reform Bill had deprived a large body of the working classes of the franchise; and now they constituted only one-seventh of the whole constituency of the country, while they constituted three-fourths of the population. His proposal would only cause that class to constitute one-tenth of the borough constituency, and one-twenty-second part of the whole constituency of the

country. He then proceeded to show by statistics [which we have quoted elsewhere] that in the last thirty years the commerce, manufactures, and navigation had been quadrupled, the improvement in agriculture had been nearly in the same proportion, and the people were better fed, clothed, lodged, and taught, than at any period of the history of the country; the cost of pauperism had been reduced one-half.

Mr. DIGBY RAYMOUR seconded the motion.

Mr. CAYE met the motion by moving the "previous question." His contention was, that the proposal came from a quarter that did not command the confidence of the country, inasmuch as "all such measures should be brought in with the authority and responsibility of the Cabinet; that the bill was in form most objectionable, since the effect of it would be to swamp the middle classes by admitting a large body of the working classes in the lump; and lastly, he insisted, that the motion was inopportune, for the country is apathetic. When the *Equi* and the *Volca* were moving, even the patricians and plebeians of old Rome ceased to strive for the mastery. Had we no parallel now? Was Italy so tranquil? Was Austria disarming? Were not the seeds of discord being sown in Hungary and Poland? Was not Prussia threatening Denmark, and France threatening Europe? Hon. members opposite laughed at these alarms, but while they were crying peace, the nation, with a truer instinct, armed itself, and the working man, feeling that these were not times for hazardous experiments upon our laws, enrolled himself in defence of that Constitution which he prized, in spite of the efforts of so many to persuade him that it was worse than worthless. Mr. Caye would not negative the principle of the bill, but he insisted that it was not the time when the question should be put.

Mr. A. SMITH seconded the motion.

Mr. LEATHAM supported the bill.

Sir JOHN RAMSDEN spoke very decisively against those who desired to waive the question at this time, and referring to the charges brought against the Government for abandoning Reform, after coming in pledged to Reform, he said the whole Liberal party was responsible for that. The rejection of Lord Derby's bill and the expulsion of his Ministry were the acts of the whole Liberal party in the House, and were not the exclusive acts of their leaders. They all joined in what was known to be a party move, and one directed more against the Ministry than against the Reform Bill of Lord Derby. It has turned out now to have been a foolish move, but they had no right to accuse the present Government of deceiving them, because, in fact they had been willing to be deceived. It is not fair for members to shift all the blame on the Government. They were all parties to the pledges that were given, they were parties to the introduction of a small bill last year, they were parties to its withdrawal. ("Hear, hear," and "No.") They supported the Government, they placed them in power, they kept them in office, and were responsible for their policy upon the question; and they must not disguise from themselves the fact that the Government did not legislate upon Reform simply because they were unable to do so, and that inability arose from causes for which the Liberal party were as much responsible as the Government.

Mr. LAWSON said a few words to an impatient House in support of the bill.

Mr. BLACK, amidst loud calls for a division, opposed the bill. He said there was great uncertainty as to the numbers whom it would enfranchise. He argued that the working classes were carefully attended to, that they already exercised much political influence, and that that influence was steadily increasing.

Mr. STANFELD contended, in answer to Sir John Ramsden, that sincere reformers are not bound to share the blame in which Sir John was so ready to participate. He sketched the progress of the question, showing how short a time ago no party doubted the expediency of Reform; how even a Conservative Government brought in a bill, how it was defeated, and succeeded by the late bill of the present Government. He was bound to believe the late House was bent upon settling the question, but no one had gauged the want of earnestness in public men; and he verily believed they were unconscious of it themselves. He now came to the concluding act of the drama.

In the present session he found an amazing progress in anti-reform tendencies. The House seemed to have grown familiar with its vices; even the point of honour appeared to have changed, and to consist in hastening to ignore the promises and professions of its earlier days. The noble lord the member for the city of London, who might be supposed to feel some personal mortification in the loss of his own measure—and he believed he did regret it with some bitterness—even he caught the prevailing infection. The noble lord announced the withdrawal of the measure in terms of affected complacency, ("Hear, hear," for he could not believe it to be natural. "Hear, hear," and laughter.) On the noble viscount as the head of her Majesty's Government the result was somewhat different, for, undoubtedly, nothing could be more eminently real and unaffected than the joyous sense of relief with which he announced his own freedom from the incubus of Reform. ("Cheers," and laughter.) But the aptest scholar of the Session was found in the right hon. member for Buckinghamshire. He fairly did penance before the House for his former sins on the question of Reform. He deliberately sought to win back the hesitating allegiance of his party, by giving unmistakable assurances of his future fidelity, treating the whole subject of Reform with contempt, and covering with personal ridicule those who, like his hon. friend, remained faithful to the professions that had brought them into that House. ("Cheers.") He would now ask the hon. member for the West Riding (Sir J. Ramsden) whether they had not some facts for

their justification, after the scenes that had been enacted in that House. It was said the country had fair warning last Session, and had remained quiescent. ("Hear, hear.") It was said the country had been invited to manifest itself in "indignation meetings," and that it had refused to be roused. ("Hear, hear.") He would not discuss the more or less indignation or apathy; hon. gentlemen might gauge that at their own discretion. But he would make a frank and free admission that the House of Commons was collectively responsible for the position in which it found itself placed. The House had tried its *coup d'état* against the public morality of the country, and the country had not risen in overwhelming indignation to protest against it. What followed from this conclusion? Those who sought for every opportunity of evading Reform—those who hoped from those endeavours to gain an indemnity for the past, seemed to forget that public opinion was not bound to be ready, at a moment's notice, to answer their call; they did not seem to be aware that public opinion in these days required public men to divine and anticipate its decrees; they seemed to forget that time did not run against the nation's right of judgment; and when the hour came, as it would come, for pronouncing its irreversible verdict, it would free the Reformers from any solidarity with those who opposed the measure, and visit the offence of evading the question of Reform on the heads of those whose professions had been ventured without faith, and who had abandoned them without shame. ("Cheers.") This was the justification of those with whom he acted. For there was one thing in the world which he had never heard that any party of men were bound in honour to share, and that was the weight of a shame that was not their own. ("Cheers.")

The House then divided on the previous question; the numbers were:—

Ayes	193
Noes	245
Majority	—52

The question, therefore, not being put, the bill was lost.

NEW WRIT FOR MARYLEBONE.

On Thursday a new writ was ordered to issue for Marylebone, in the room of Mr. Edwin James.

THE SOUTHERN CONFEDERATION.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER gave notice that when the hon. member (Mr. Gregory) moved his resolution on Tuesday, the 16th inst., in favour of a prompt recognition of the Southern Confederacy of America, he should move as an amendment that it was not desirable the House should express an opinion upon the recognition of this Confederacy without having first obtained some security against the renewal of the African Slave Trade.

THE SEBASTOPOL CEMETERIES.

In answer to General Buckley, Lord J. RUSSELL said that the care of the graves of the British officers and soldiers at Sebastopol had been placed under the charge of the consul at Kertch. There had been some desecration of the graves, but steps would be taken to have them restored.

CONSTRUCTION OF SHIPS.

Mr. LINDSAY moved, on Thursday, the following series of resolutions, on the motion that the House should go into committee of supply on the Navy Estimates:—

1. That it is expedient to defer any further expenditure on the construction or conversion of wooden line-of-battle ships.
2. That it is inexpedient to incur during the present year the expenditure requisite for the completion of the line-of-battle ships now on the stocks; and that during the present year it is not expedient to commence the construction of any wooden vessels which carry guns on more than one deck.
3. That it is inexpedient, without further experience, to sanction the expenditure of any money for the purpose of adapting her Majesty's dockyards for the construction of iron vessels.

He held that no premium could be too high for maintaining the safety of the country, but he held that the danger is under our own control; and that it is often created by mistakes of policy. Then he deprecated the policy of "beggars my neighbour" pursued by England and France, and insisted that our naval armaments are ample as compared with all others in the world, much more as compared with France. We have twenty-two steam line-of-battle ships more than all the other nations of the world. [A statement Lord C. Paget subsequently denied: we have only seventeen more.] Mr. Lindsay compared our iron-cased navy favourably with that of France, denied that the Emperor is building ten more iron-cased ships, and held, citing figures, that the French had spent far less on their navy than we have on ours. He condemned the purchase of so much timber; the cost of the management of the Admiralty; the mode of keeping accounts; and he demanded large reductions in the navy estimates.

Sir MORTON Peto seconded the amendment in a speech devoted to proving that the material of our future navy must be iron; that the builders of the ships must be private firms and not dockyard men; and that the Admiralty system is ill-conceived and productive of great mismanagement. Our Admiralty had ordered three different classes of iron-cased ships, but it was the opinion of all scientific men that the only ships that were worth anything were the *Warrior* and the *Black Prince*.

Lord C. PAGET said that if the resolutions were agreed to it was impossible that the Admiralty could be responsible for the administration of the navy. In the first place, it was not intended to build any more wooden line-of-battle ships; but he could not agree to give up the conversion of vessels of that class, which was going on. He was not, nor were any practical naval men, prepared to subscribe to the doctrine that wooden ships should be abolished altogether in the navy. As to not adapting the Government dockyards for the construction of iron-cased ships, it was thought advisable to build one of these vessels at Chatham, with a view to give facilities for the adoption of improvements which might be discovered in the process of building, which could not be so easily carried out when

vessels were built by contract. In reference to a comparative statement of Mr. Lindsay of the navies of England and the other powers, he stated that all the navies combined had fifty-three line-of-battle ships and England sixty-seven, while France had forty-seven frigates and England fifty-two, all steam. He would assert that all the French iron-cased ships might be ready this summer. The noble lord replied in detail to the other statements of the preceding speakers, and urged the House not to agree to the proposed resolutions.

Mr. BENTINCK commented minutely on each statement of Mr. Lindsay, and characterised his motion as one calculated to induce the House to take upon it the functions of the executive.

Lord GIFFORD agreed with all the resolutions except the concluding part of the second resolution. He stated, as one of the Royal Commissioners, the difficulties they encountered in ascertaining the cost of shipbuilding in the Royal yards.

Mr. CORRY could not support the resolutions. He alleged that from the year 1852 to 1856 inclusive, the French Naval Estimates were only 19,807,000*l.*, whereas the expenditure was 31,691,621*l.*—in other words, little short of double the amount of the estimates.

Sir J. PAXTON, in advocating the employment of iron ships, treated the objection as to their foulness as a bugbear, inasmuch as their bottoms could be cleaned, he said, with facility and expedition.

Mr. DAGLISH suggested that it might be worth while for the Admiralty to consider whether the large line-of-battle ships now building might not be coated with iron. He gave the House his personal experience in France to this effect:—

Having been to Toulon and Cherbourg within the last fortnight, he could assure the hon. gentleman, Mr. Bentinck, that his fears were groundless, as far as the preparations connected with shipbuilding in those quarters were concerned. At Toulon, one of their largest building-yards, the French had two small corvettes, one iron frigate, launched within the last few days, and a transport of about 600 horse-power. *La Gloire* was also there, and after passing round her he must say he believed the iron vessels built under our late Board of Admiralty would be infinitely superior to her. At Cherbourg they had two vessels building (corvettes), and a third, a steamer, which was to be coated with iron, lay in dock. They were also laying down the keel of a fourth iron steamer; but neither the wooden steamer lately launched and to be coated with iron, nor the iron vessel at Cherbourg to which he had referred, was nearly ready, or in the same state of progress as the *Warrior*.

Mr. HORSMAN observed that the reforms recommended by the Royal Dockyard Commissioners had been pointed out by Lord C. Paget, when not in office; and, under all the circumstances, considering that a new spirit seemed to be pervading the Naval Department, he thought the time inopportune for resolutions which would be regarded as a vote of censure upon it.

After some observations by Mr. W. Williams,

Sir J. PAKINGTON had not understood clearly from Lord Clarence the intentions of the Admiralty as to wooden line-of-battle ships. He had stated that we had 67 of these ships; but this number must include those on the stocks, there being only about 63 afloat. Although he concurred in some portion of the resolutions, they might be open to misconstruction, and he should be sorry to take the matter out of the hands of the Executive Government. He gave various explanations regarding the *Warrior*, and to show the infancy of our knowledge on the subject of iron ships, confessing that he saw no prospect of being able to abandon the construction of wooden ships.

Mr. FINLAY was of opinion that further experiments should be made before the safety of the country was intrusted to iron ships.

Lord J. RUSSELL said that no progress would be made this year with ships that were building, but that those which were in process of conversion would be proceeded with.

The motion was then withdrawn.

NEW ZEALAND.

Sir J. TRELAWNY called attention to the position of affairs in the north island of New Zealand; urging that great injustice had been done to one of the native tribes in attempting to dispossess it of land which was clearly its property; and the result of which was the war which was now going on. He concluded with a motion to the effect that there ought to be an inquiry into the matter in dispute by a special tribunal as soon as ever the authority of the Queen was re-established in the colony.

Mr. C. FORTESCUE observed that any person who would take the pains to study the Blue Book on New Zealand affairs, in a candid spirit, would come to a very different conclusion from Sir J. Trelawny, who represented a small party in the island. It was, he said, a mistake to suppose that there had been any violation of the Treaty of Waitangi, or that there was any such invariable, definite, and universal tribal right as that claimed by the Ngatiawa tribe and Wirimu Kingi. He gave a detailed narrative of the transactions in which the war originated, the real object being, he observed, to dispute the Queen's supremacy, at the instance of a powerful native organisation, which it was the duty of Governor Browne to resist, in the interests of the colonists and of the natives themselves.

Mr. SELWYN observed that, under the Treaty of Waitangi, certain rights of property were reserved to the natives, and the question was what these rights were. It was the opinion of well-informed Europeans in the colony that no individual of a tribe could alienate land to a stranger without the assent of the tribe collectively, and the block of land which was the cause of the dispute, and the sale of

which by the Chief Teira the Governor enforced, was subject to this native law. He admitted that Governor Browne was a friend of the natives; but he had yielded to pressure, in direct contravention, as he (Mr. Selwyn) contended, of the collective rights guaranteed by the Treaty. The plea put forward in justification of the purchase, that the possessors of the land had been conquered by the Waikatos, and had therefore lost their collective rights, was overruled by a decision of Governor Fitzroy, who had restored the rights. He disputed the statement of Mr. Fortescue, that former Governors of the colony had conducted sales in the same manner.

Lord C. HAMILTON maintained that Governor Browne had been perfectly justified in his conduct, and he explained the position of the Teira tribe, who were subject to the Waikatos, and had no other right to the block of land, he said, than that of occupation.

Mr. Hope could not support the motion; but he agreed with Sir J. Trevelyan that there should be some tribunal that could investigate these questions. The debate was then adjourned.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at a quarter to two o'clock.

DWELLINGS OF THE POOR.

On Friday, the Sheriffs of London appeared at the bar and presented a petition from the Corporation of London, praying that in bills for railways having their termini in the city, and in the construction of which the dwellings of the poorer classes will be destroyed, provision may be made for carrying the poorer classes to the suburbs at low rates.

THE NELSON MONUMENT.

On the motion for the adjournment to Monday, Admiral WALCOTT called attention to the incomplete state of the Nelson monument, in Trafalgar-square, the vote to complete the same having been granted in 1858.

Mr. W. COWPER admitted that there had been great delay in reference to the matter, but said that there might be worse things than delay in regard to statues in Trafalgar-square. The lions for the base of the monument were in the hands of Sir E. Landseer, who was engaged in the task of modelling them.

DENMARK—CHINA.

Mr. H. J. BAILLIE brought forward the subject of the affairs of Schleswig and Holstein, and asked for any correspondence which had taken place between Prussia and Denmark on that question. He urged that Prussia had been the moving cause in exciting dissatisfaction in Holstein against Denmark, thus rendering all compromise or settlement impossible, for the object of Holstein was nothing less than reparation from Denmark. He inquired whether the Government had conveyed to Prussia an intimation that England would not look on with indifference on any course of policy in this matter which was calculated to disturb the peace of Europe.

Sir H. VERNEY put some inquiries on the same subject.

Colonel SYKES asked whether a series of thirteen papers, beginning with consular notifications dated the 18th and 29th Dec., 1860, and the 2nd of Jan., 1861, comprising narratives of missionary visits to Soochow and Nankin in 1860, letters and other documents, and ending with an edict for the toleration of Christianity by the Taeping King, dated 29th Dec., 1860, papers which had been already published in the *North China Herald*, the official organ of her Majesty's Legation at Shanghai, had been transmitted to the Foreign-office by her Majesty's Legation at Shanghai; also whether Consul Meadows had resigned his office, and if so, on what grounds.

Lord J. RUSSELL said that it was impossible to be without some apprehension with regard to the affair of Schleswig and Holstein. It was true that there was some such understanding as had been alluded to, but it had never been acted upon, nor had any common constitution been created, Holstein having declined to accede to that arrangement. The King of Denmark had always maintained that he had done his best to carry out the engagements entered into in 1851. At the end of last year the Danish Government made propositions to her Majesty's Government with regard to Holstein, to be laid before Prussia. The English Government did not see enough in these propositions to satisfy the German Confederation, and the matter came to nothing. The German Confederation called on Denmark to grant that the budget relating to Holstein should be submitted to that duchy; and also that no laws should be made with regard to Holstein without being submitted to that province. The course pursued by the French Government in the matter was identical with that of England, and with the concurrence of Russia and Sweden, England addressed a note to Denmark, asking that the Holstein part of the budget should be submitted to that State; which was about to be done; and it seemed to fulfil the demand of the German Confederation; but the States of Holstein considered that the budget had not been placed properly before them, and they had declined to consider it. It was intended by means of the united advice of England, France, Russia, and Sweden, to bring about a settlement of the question, which was fraught with much danger unless it was brought to an amicable conclusion. The noble lord went on to say that although there were many hon. gentlemen in the House who might feel a partiality for Germany or for Denmark, the hon. and gallant member for Aberdeen was the only one who took an interest in the Taepings.—(A laugh.)

The hon. and gallant member had asked many questions on matters he had read in the *North China Herald*. In reply to his request, it could not be promised that any papers which the Government could give him on the subject should be very quickly laid on the table, because

the clerks in the Foreign-office were now fully employed in copying, and the printers in printing other documents to be laid before the House. The noble lord then particularised the papers relative to the Chinese rebellion which he should be able to produce.

EVICIONS IN IRELAND.

Mr. V. SCULLY asked whether on the 8th of April instant, a resident magistrate, with a sub-inspector and 200 police, assisted the sheriff of Donegal to evict 45 families, numbering 280 persons, from the townland of Derrybaugh, in that county?

Mr. CARDWELL said that no official account had been received on the subject. He might, however, mention that the steward of the gentleman to whom the property belonged had been recently murdered, and the murderers had not been discovered, while his house had been set on fire on a late occasion when he was occupying it.

DECLARATIONS FOR OFFICES.

Mr. HADFIELD moved for a return of the name of every person who, in and since the year 1850, has made and subscribed the declaration specified and required in the Act 9 Geo. IV. c. 17, on his having been admitted into any office or employment, &c. He did not ask for the names of the persons who ought to take the declaration, but for the names of those who ought to have taken it and who had not. The declaration was not for the purpose of preventing aggression on the Church, but for the purpose of asserting the predominance of a class of her Majesty's subjects over the larger class. Three times this House had passed a bill abolishing this declaration, but it had always been rejected in another place. Under these circumstances, he trusted that this return would be agreed to.

Sir G. C. LEWIS said the hon. member wished for the names of all persons who during the last ten years took this oath. Did he seek through that House to call for such a return in order to lay the foundation for a prosecution?

Mr. HADFIELD replied "No," he wished to do away with the practice.

Sir G. LEWIS conceived the hon. gentleman was seeking to use the compulsory powers of the House in order to obtain evidence for a criminal prosecution. The hon. member held that those persons were not indemnified by the Annual Indemnity Act; then he (Sir G. Lewis) apprehended that any person might in that case lay a criminal prosecution, and if the hon. member's motion were agreed to, it would be using the powers of the House for that purpose, and he (Sir G. Lewis) thought that ought not to be granted. (Hear.)

Mr. HADFIELD consented to withdraw his motion, but expressed a hope that this law would not much longer continue to disgrace the statute-book.

The motion was then withdrawn.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

Mr. L. KING obtained leave to bring in a bill to afford facilities for performing divine service by ministers of the Church of England and Ireland.

The Post-office Savings-banks Bill was read a third time, after an explanation by the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, and passed.

The Charitable Uses Bill was read a second time.

NEW ZEALAND.

The adjourned debate on going into a committee of supply was then resumed.

Mr. LONGFIELD proceeded to address the House in support of Sir J. Trevelyan's resolution regarding the transactions in New Zealand.

Mr. LOWE considered the question as a simple one, and cited the declaration of Wirimu King as evidence of the case set up on his behalf—that, confident in his power, he defied the English Government. It was no question of law or right, but an effort to set aside the Queen's authority by force. An attempt had been made to show that this chief had a veto on the alienation of the land; but this alleged right, which should be strictly examined, was surrounded with difficulties, and the proof lay upon the party who set it up; whereas there was nothing like proof, and the presumption was the other way. The decision of a tribunal would have no effect upon a man who acknowledged no right but force, no law but his own will.

Mr. ADDERLEY remarked upon the difficulty of discussing native rights in the House of Commons, and urged that these questions could be more advantageously considered in the colonial Parliament, the members of which were better acquainted with them, and were interested in the welfare of the natives. Mr. KINNAIRD observed that the Governor had admitted that the question was a doubtful one; he regretted that nothing like a word of conciliation had fallen from the Government. Colonel DUNNE bore testimony to the character of Governor Browne. Mr. DUNLOR thought a prospect should be held out to the natives of a tribunal that would do them justice.

Upon a division, the amendment was negatived by 38 to 24.

The House then went into a committee of supply on the Navy estimates, when certain votes were agreed to, after discussion.

The remaining business having been disposed of, the House adjourned, at nine o'clock, till Monday.

THE BUDGET.

On Monday, in committee of ways and means, The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER brought forward his financial statement. He said that the retrospective statement which he had to make was the most unfavourable, indeed the only unfavourable one, which it had ever been his duty to bring

forward. Whatever might have been the results of the last financial year, it was one of the most remarkable and important ones in the annals of finance. It was signalled by the commercial treaty with France, by the removal of great national burdens, and was marked by the removal of the last protective duty from our system; it was a year of the largest expenditure that had occurred in time of peace, while it was characterised by an unparalleled severity of the seasons. Looking at the estimated and actual expenditure of the past year it would be found that the estimate, excluding the charge for fortifications, was 73,684,000*l.*, while the actual expenditure was 72,842,000*l.*, making a difference of 842,000*l.* This was owing to the fact of an overcharge having been made for the navy in the estimates, and the consequent diminution of the vote of credit for the China war—3,800,000*l.*, by a sum something like 800,000*l.* Comparing the revenue of the past year with that of the previous year, he stated that in 1859 there was a favourable balance of about 1,200,000*l.* In 1859 the revenue amounted to 71,089,000*l.*, and in 1860 it was 70,283,000*l.*, making a decrease of 806,000*l.* From circumstances curiously connected with the daily expenditure of the country, which amounted to 200,000*l.* each day, the actual difference between the two years was only 506,000*l.*—in round numbers about half a million. The actual expenditure of the year 1859-60 was 72,842,000*l.*, which, as compared with the revenue received of 70,283,000*l.*, left an apparent deficiency of 2,559,000*l.*, but with certain deductions it was reduced to an actual deficiency of 221,000*l.* The estimate of revenue from customs, excise, post-office, and stamps was 27,457,000*l.*, and the yield was 27,522,000*l.* As regarded the customs, they were estimated to yield 23,430,000*l.*, and they had actually yielded 23,305,000*l.* Whatever was the loss of the excise in what was called a bad year was gained by the customs; and this was the case last year with regard to corn, which, imported under a nominal duty, produced 866,000*l.*; while the deficiency in the barley crop caused an increase of customs in the article of sugar for breweries of 54,000*l.*, and the duty on imported hops was 47,000*l.* Tea, sugar, and tobacco had been almost stationary—the increase of duty on tea having been 500,000*l.* on sugar 18,000*l.*, while there had been a decrease of duty on tobacco of 21,000*l.* With regard to articles on which duty had been reduced, such as timber, &c., the reduction had been estimated to amount to 663,000*l.*, while the loss had actually been only 529,000*l.* As regarded spirits, there was an abolition of the differential duties, making a reduction of duty on brandy of 446,000*l.* but in July an additional duty had been placed on foreign spirits, which was estimated to yield 400,000*l.* So that the reduction was to be only 46,000*l.* The result had been a gain on spirits of 79,000*l.* With reference to the change in the duty on wine, the loss anticipated by reduction was 830,000*l.*, and the actual loss had been 493,000*l.*; a better return having been thus made than he had ventured to suppose. The importation in 1859-60 of wines other than French was 8,021,000 gallons, and of French wines 1,156,000 gallons, making a total of 9,176,000 gallons. In 1860-61 the quantity of wines other than French was 9,878,000 gallons, of French, 2,631,000, making a total of importation of 12,509,000 gallons. The right hon. gentleman then proceeded to argue that it was necessary that the national taste of the country with regard to wine must undergo some change before the effect of the reduction of the duty on French wines could be felt. Turning to the revenue from excise, he stated that it was estimated at 21,361,000*l.*, while it had yielded 19,435,000*l.* only. The deficit arose on three articles—firstly, on hops, in which there was a deficiency of 300,000*l.*; on malt there was a deficit of 800,000*l.*; and on spirits there was a deficiency of 900,000*l.*, which together represented the real sources and points of the failure of the revenue of the year. The deficiency on hops was attributable to the bad season; while that on malt was partially, although not wholly, owing to that cause. As to the loss of 900,000*l.* on spirits, he showed that, looking to the amount of duty received in that part of last year in which the additional duties were levied, there had been an increase as compared with that part of the year in which the reduced duty prevailed. This was to be accounted for by the uncertainty of the deliveries, which did not depend solely on the amount of duty. In considering the financial condition of the country, it was necessary to advert to the growing expenditure of the country. In 1858 the sum voted was under 64,000,000*l.*, while in 1861 it was under 74,000,000*l.*—an increase of 10,000,000*l.* in two years; 9,000,000*l.* of taxes being imposed to meet those requirements; while of temporary resources only 2,700,000*l.* had been called in aid for that purpose. The right hon. gentleman next proceeded to state that the balances in the Exchequer in March, 1861, were 6,522,000*l.* As regarded the national debt, 1,000,000*l.* of Exchequer bonds had been paid off, but replaced by a new set to the same amount. A sum of 139,000*l.* of Exchequer Bills had been paid off, and the addition to the debt, exclusive of money for fortifications, was 460,000*l.* Comparing the past year with 1853, there were large remissions of taxation and unfavourable seasons; although 1860 was far more unfavourable in this latter respect, it would be found that the immediate and palpable effect of remissions of taxation presented a remarkable contrast. In 1853, there were remitted 1,500,000*l.* of customs duties, which loss

was made up, and more, by the end of that year. In 1853, excise duties to the extent of 350,000*l.*, and the gain on the year was 900,000*l.* In 1860, the excise ought to have produced a gain of 1,945,000*l.*; but it had only produced a gain of 265,000*l.* But the expenditure of 1854 was, of imperial expenditure, 56,000,000*l.*, and the local expenditure, 16,000,000*l.*; total 72,000,000*l.* In 1860, the imperial expenditure was 73,000,000*l.*, the local charge, 18,000,000*l.*; total, 91,000,000*l.*; or an increase of 20,000,000*l.* in seven years; and he believed that there must be some reference to this cause in considering the falling off in the elasticity of the revenue. Nevertheless, he mentioned that, looking to trade, there was every justification for the financial measures of last year. Referring to the French Treaty, and paying a high compliment to Mr. Cobden, and to the conduct of the Government of France, the right hon. gentleman proceeded to show that the export trade last year was 136,000,000*l.* of declared value, as against 130,000,000*l.* in the previous year, and the largest ever known. With regard to imports, there had been an increase in several articles—among others, silk goods, in foreign and colonial timber—the latter especially; in butter, cheese, eggs, and rice there had been an increase of 7,000,000*l.* in value in 1860, as compared with 4,000,000*l.* in 1859, and these were articles on which small customs duties had been abolished. The importation of corn in 1860 had risen from some 17,000,000*l.* in 1859, to 38,154,000*l.* in 1860; a fearful proof of the failing of production in this country, but an equally cogent proof of the value of that legislation which had removed all obstructions to the importation of that article of necessity. Taking the articles of import the duties on which had not been touched last year, the amount in 1859 was 138,151,000*l.*, and in 1860 it was much the same. The articles on which there had been a reduction of duty last year were in value, in 1859, 11,346,000*l.*, and in 1860, 13,323,000*l.*; while those on which the duty was abolished last year were in 1859 in value 15,735,000*l.*, and in 1860 22,630,000*l.*, an increase of nearly six millions and a half. Taking up the question of the estimated expenditure of the coming year, the right hon. gentleman stated that the interest on the debt would be 26,180,000*l.*; the charge on the Consolidated Fund, 1,930,000*l.*; for the army and militia, 15,260,000*l.*; for the navy, 12,029,000*l.*; and a vote of credit for the China war of 1,000,000*l.* would be asked for, making the military charge 28,285,000*l.* The Miscellaneous estimates would be 7,730,000*l.*, the revenue departments 4,780,000*l.*, being a diminution of about 70,000*l.* on last year. The packet service would be 995,000*l.*, making the total estimates for the year 69,900,000*l.* The estimate of revenue for the year he took as follows:—In the Customs the duty on chicory would be doubled, bringing in 15,000*l.*; and the estimate of the Customs was 23,585,000*l.*; Excise, 19,463,000*l.*; Stamps, 8,460,000*l.* It was proposed to reduce the hawkers' licence duty for the year from 4*l.* to 2*l.*, and to allow half-yearly licences. There was to be a change in the licensing of wine and refreshment houses, which would produce about 20,000*l.* There was to be an alteration in the mode of licensing for the selling of spirits; that is, the wholesale dealers, by paying a duty of 3*l.* 3*s.*, would be allowed to sell spirits retail, which would bring in about 5,000*l.* Stamps on agreements for furnished houses for a part of the year would be only 5*s.* instead of ad valorem as now; and house agents would have to take out a 2*l.* licence. Stamps on foreign bills of exchange would be levied in a different manner. The revenue from taxes would be 3,050,000*l.*; income-tax, 11,200,000*l.*; Post-office, 3,500,000*l.*; crown lands, 295,000*l.*; and miscellaneous, 1,400,000*l.*; and the indemnity from China received in the financial year, 750,000*l.*; making a total revenue of 71,823,000*l.*, being a surplus of 1,923,000*l.* over an estimated expenditure of 69,900,000*l.* The Government had come to the conclusion that it would not be justified in keeping so large a balance in hand, and it was proposed to apply it to the diminution of taxation. There were four articles which would at once present themselves to notice—viz., the tea and sugar duties, the tenth penny of the income-tax, and the paper-duty. It was proposed to remit the penny on the income-tax which was imposed last year. (This announcement was received with loud cheers.) He thought it hard that he should be made responsible for the tax, but should be happy to be made the instrument of its abolition. But he was not sanguine, and might quote the Rev. Sydney Smith, who in his admirable pamphlet upon the ballot, speaking of some very remote result, said, "I think we had better leave the care of this subject to those little legislators who are now receiving a plum or a cake after dinner." The income-tax was simply a question of expenditure. (Cheers.)

Upon all sudden attempts to reduce it, and upon all promises to make sudden, extensive, and sweeping reductions in it, I should look with great suspicion and disfavour; but, if the country is content to be governed at a cost of between 60,000,000*l.* and 62,000,000*l.* or 64,000,000*l.* a-year, I do not believe that there is any reason why it should not be so governed without the income-tax, provided that Parliament so wills. (Hear, hear.) If, on the other hand, it is the pleasure of the country to be governed at a cost of between 70,000,000*l.* and 75,000,000*l.* a-year, it must be so governed with the aid of a considerable income-tax. That I believe to be the whole case, and I really cannot conceive that my responsibility to abolish the tax is so absolute as it has been represented by some gentlemen.

Of any future Chancellor of the Exchequer who might be able to achieve that task some future poet may be able to sing, as Mr. Tennyson had sung of

Godiva,—although he did not suppose the means employed would be the same,—

"He took away the tax,
And built himself an everlasting name."

This remission would cause a loss in the present financial year of 850,000*l.* The rate would be 9*d.* in the pound on incomes above 150*l.* a-year, and 6*d.* in the pound on those above 100*l.* The next subject was the duty on paper, which might now be approached without awakening adverse feeling. Her Majesty's Government might now hope not only that there would be no revival of a painful and arduous controversy, but that by so doing they might seal and bring the controversy to a final close. (Hear, hear.) He had heard but few members of this House object to the repeal of the Paper-duty on the merits of that proposal. Mr. Ellice had objected to repeal that tax while there was a deficit. It was shown on the figures that there was no risk of a deficit now.

He also said, "I will not repeal it when we are called on to propose other taxes equally odious;" and I do not think I am misrepresenting his speech when I say that his meaning was—"I will not repeal the duty on paper if that repeal is to be purchased by the augmentation of the income-tax." I now invite the right hon. gentleman and the House to concur in that repeal in conjunction, not with an augmentation, but with the commencement of a diminution. (Cheers.) When we consider the subject on its merits, every man, I am sure, will admit the powerful considerations that must concur in recommending the measure we propose. There is the yet unredeemed pledge conveyed by the resolution of this House. (Cheers.) There is the increased and increasing difficulty of executing the law; there is the conscientious and impartial declaration of the department intrusted with the duty of collecting the tax; there is the important fact that the repeal of this tax received the sanction of a large majority of this House last year; and though that majority dwindled on a subsequent occasion, it dwindled only in the face of the fact that new demands for public purposes had come into view, and it was obvious that some new fiscal measures must be taken to supply the wants of the Exchequer. Under these circumstances we are convinced that we are making a proposal which will receive, not the acquiescence only, but the approval and sanction of the House. (Hear, hear.)

They had then a balance of 1,923,000*l.* to dispose of—

One penny taken off the income-tax will deprive us for three-fourths of the year during which the change will be in operation of 180,000*l.* We cannot propose the repeal of the paper-duty from the 15th of August, the period which was fixed on last year, because that would trench rather too sharply on the balance at our command. We propose to date its remission from the 1st of October. The loss on Excise revenue by repealing the paper duty will be 675,000*l.*; and there will be a loss of Customs' duty from the same cause of 15,000*l.*; making together 690,000*l.* There will be, however, a saving by reduction of the vote for stationery of about 15,000*l.*—a sum representing but a very small proportion of the direct saving which the public will make by the repeal. Adding to this, 10,000*l.* the amount of the saving by reduction of the establishment charges for the half-year, the total saving will amount to 25,000*l.*, leaving a net loss on the repeal of the paper duty of 665,000*l.* Coupling this with the reduction of income-tax, the total remission will be 1,515,000*l.*, which, when deducted from the balance of revenue, will leave a residue of surplus to the moderate amount of 408,000*l.* (Loud cheers.)

Referring to what are called the minor charges on commercial operations, on the subject of which he had received remonstrances from the trading community, he stated that the charges were about 320,000*l.* a-year, and the Exchequer could not surrender that sum; nor could he admit that, as regarded the greater number of those duties, any case had been made out against them. As to the portions of the reduced income-tax and the duty on paper, the loss of which would fall on the year 1862-3, to the extent of about 800,000*l.*, that would be probably provided for by the sum payable for indemnity from China, and reductions in military estimates. It was only proposed to re-enact the income-tax and tea and sugar duties for one year. He should ask the House to take the proposals of the Government into consideration on Monday next, by means of a series of resolutions in committee of ways and means, taking the income-tax first, the tea and sugar duties next, and then the repeal of the paper-duty. They would all then be included in one bill. In conclusion, the right hon. gentleman expressed his opinion that in the face of many difficulties there were no symptoms of decay or falling off in the prosperous condition and strength of the country; but he added some impressive warnings against the tendency to large expenditure and financial prodigality which had been growing up, and which threatened to reach an overwhelming magnitude, and he trusted that a movement would be inaugurated for the reduction of that expenditure.

A conversational discussion followed, in the course of which the general balance of opinion was in favour of the proposed finance measures. Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE said:—

So far as the financial prospects of the present year were concerned, he understood the right hon. gentleman to say that he expected the loss to the revenue caused by the repeal of the paper-duty and the remission of 1*d.* in the pound of the income-tax would be compensated by certain reductions in our military and naval expenditure, but he seemed to forget that 1,000,000*l.* in the shape of Exchequer Bonds would be falling due in May, 1862, another million in the year following, and, if he was not mistaken, a third in the ensuing year. Now, when it was taken into account that such was the case, that we had been borrowing money for the purpose of erecting fortifications, that we had been drawing heavily on our balances, and that we had not yet ascertained the full cost of the war with China, the House was bound to weigh well the effect which the right hon.

gentleman's scheme was calculated to have upon our financial position for the next twelvemonths. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. DODSON put in his regrets for hops—Mr. HADFIELD for the duty on fire insurance. Mr. GLYN said the proposed remissions of taxation were precisely those which the country desired. The reduction of the income-tax would be regarded as a great boon, while the House of Commons was, in some sense, bound to deal with the paper-duty. Mr. E. BALL regretted that the malt-tax was not to be touched. Mr. W. EWART begged to express the pleasure he felt at the proposal of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to abolish the paper-duty—a measure dictated alike by good faith and policy. Mr. CAVE thought the country would be disappointed to find that the Chancellor of the Exchequer continued the very objectionable penny taxes which possessed the qualities of giving the least return to the Exchequer, and the greatest trouble to the taxpayer. The public would also be sorry that the reduction of the tea and sugar duties should be postponed to the repeal of the paper-duties. (Hear, hear.) Mr. J. EWART was glad to hear the Chancellor of the Exchequer promise to reconsider the penny duty on packages. There was no tax more unpopular among the trading community. Mr. B. OSBORNE, though he had objected on financial grounds to the repeal of the paper-duty, thought the right hon. gentleman had acted with great wisdom in proposing to remove this fruitful subject of controversy between the two Houses.

Under other circumstances I should have preferred the reduction of the tea and sugar duties, but I cannot resist the conviction that the paper-duty was a most dangerous subject to be left open after the course taken by the other House of Parliament, and I congratulate the right hon. gentleman on the great nerve and wisdom he has shown in dealing with it. (Hear.) That penny on the income-tax thrown to us country gentlemen will float his budget. He has wrapped up the paper very well (a laugh), and if the penny does not float the budget through, it will be very unwise of us not to take the compromise he offers us. I think, too, the right hon. gentleman has acted wisely in placing these matters in one bill. (Hear, hear.)

Lord ROBERT CECIL objected to the use of the phrase "profligate expenditure" by a member of the Government which proposed the estimates. Mr. HENEAGE believed that the reduction of the paper-duty would be very acceptable to his constituents. Mr. CROSSLEY said that the hon. member for Cambridgeshire (Mr. Ball) had spoken of the bad harvest and the malt-duty as if it were the agricultural interest, and not the consumer, that paid the duty. Sir J. PAXTON highly approved the repeal of the paper-duties. There was a large consumption of paper in Coventry, and great advantage would arise from the remission of the duty among his constituents. Mr. MALINS said, respecting the paper-duty—

Though he regretted that the right hon. gentleman had selected this particular duty for remission instead of the hop-duty, yet, as he had done so, and as the remission of the paper-duty would get rid of a very troublesome question, he, for his part, would offer no further opposition to it. (Laughter.) He hoped, considering the troublesome nature of the question, and that the repeal of the duty would be satisfactory to a large proportion of the community, that the House would not stand in opposition to the decision of the Government. (Hear.)

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER acknowledged the great candour with which hon. members had spoken of his financial statement, and after referring to some of the remarks made on the Budget, moved a resolution, doubling the duty on chicory, which was agreed to, and the House resumed.

The Births, Deaths, and Marriages (Ireland) Bill was, after discussion, read a second time. Mr. V. SCULLY moved that it be referred to a select committee, and on a division that motion was carried—100 to 94.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at half-past twelve o'clock.

PROGRESS OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

The following are interesting extracts from Mr. Baines' reform speech on Wednesday, relative to the material, moral, and educational progress of the working classes during the last quarter of a century:—

He need scarcely say that those who were admitted to the franchise in 1832 must have received their education at least twelve years earlier; and therefore he might go back to the returns obtained by Lord Brougham in 1818, when it was found that the number of children attending day schools in England and Wales was only 1 in 17·25 of the population, in 1833 it was 1 in 11·27, whereas in 1858 it was computed to have risen to 1 in 7·7. At the earliest date the number of children at school was 674,182, in 1833 it was 1,276,947, and in 1858 it was 2,535,462. Further, the number of children in those admirable institutions, the Sunday schools, which had been a chief agency in the promotion of virtue and piety, was 477,225 in 1818, 1,548,890 in 1833, and 2,411,544 in 1858; and, what was a wonderful proof of the zeal for religious education in the country, there were in 1851 no less than 318,135 voluntary and unpaid teachers in the Sunday-schools. Among the Sunday-schools he was informed that there are periodicals for their special use, with a united circulation of 200,000; and a gentleman who possessed, perhaps, a larger acquaintance with Sunday-schools than any other, Mr. Charles Reed, informed him that he believed one-third of the male teachers who were householders were of the class below 10*l.* occupiers. In the 40 years from 1818 to 1858, while the population only increased 68 per cent., the increase of day scholars was 275 per cent., and of Sunday scholars 405 per cent. There had sprung up since 1824 a vast number of popular institutions for

supplementing the education and carrying on the mental improvement of the industrious classes, bearing the general name of mechanics' institutions, in which were held evening classes for elementary education, and also in many of them for instruction in mathematics, drawing, chemistry, and other branches of useful knowledge. He attached the highest importance to these institutions, founded by those great promoters of education, Dr. Birkbeck and Lord Brougham, as means of developing the minds of the industrious classes and directing them into channels of useful study. He had obtained from Dr. Hudson, the author of the "History of Adult Education," an estimate of the comparative numbers of these institutions in 1831 and 1861, and he ascertained that in the former year there were only in England and Wales 35 mechanics' institutions, with 7,000 members, whereas in 1861 there were 777 institutions, containing 132,460 members; and adding other institutions of a similar nature, and evening schools for adults, he said, "I am fully satisfied that the estimate may be taken in round numbers at above 1,200 institutions affording adult-class instruction, and attended by 200,000 pupils and members." There was, no doubt, a large admixture of the middle classes in these institutions, but he believed a majority of the members belonged to the working classes; and he held in his hand a very gratifying return from Dr. Hudson of the results of the evening-class instruction in the 137 institutions in the Lancashire and Cheshire Association of Mechanics' Institutes. He gave the total number of members in those institutes as 24,000; the pupils in the evening classes as 12,000; and he, as inspector and examiner, last winter examined 1,208 of the more advanced pupils, among whom were 568 mill operatives. Dr. Hudson wrote in the most commendatory terms also as to the intelligence of the working classes. As might be expected, improved education had created an appetite for intellectual food; and accordingly a wonderful extension—he might almost say creation—of popular literature, both cheap and useful, had taken place; a fact which he confidently mentioned to the House as one of the strongest evidences of the reading habits of the working classes. Publications of every kind had multiplied during the last thirty years, but by far the most marked feature of the case was the increase of those publications which by their price and quality are suited to the classes whom he proposed to entranchise. The general increase in our political literature appeared from the following facts, taken from the *Newspaper Press Directory* for 1861:—Newspapers published in England and Wales in 1831, 205; in Scotland, 33; in Ireland, 57; in British Isles, 0—total, in the United Kingdom, 295. Newspapers published in England and Wales in 1861, 819; in Scotland, 138; in Ireland, 139; in British Isles 13—total, in the United Kingdom, 1,102; showing an increase of 273 per cent. for a population which had only increased during the period 43 per cent. He had also obtained through the assistance of Mr. Francis, publisher of the *Athenæum*, Mr. David Chambers, of the firm of Messrs. Chambers, Brothers, Mr. John Cassell, the publisher of educational works and various periodicals, and Mr. Tweedie, the publisher of Temperance works, a mass of facts too large to be laid before the House, but proving an enormous increase in the quantity of the cheap periodicals, religious and literary, and a decided improvement in their moral character. Indeed, the literature of this class had almost originated within the period to which his review extended, and he would, with the permission of the House, quote the following figures:—Circulation of London newspapers (per annum) in 1830, 19,746,851; in 1860, 118,796,200; ditto, of newspapers in the United Kingdom, in 1830, 36,807,055; assuming the increase to be the same as in London, it would be, in 1860, 221,444,000; London weekly newspapers for the working classes (per week), in 1830, 75,000; in 1860, 730,000. Periodicals in 1860.—Unsectarian Christian literature, as the *Leisure Hour*, *British Workman*, &c., at 1d. and 2d. per number (monthly issue), 2,510,500; journals, tales, and biographical sketches, &c. (weekly), 700,000; romances, at 1d., exciting wonder and horror (per week), 5,000; immoral literature 1d. per number (weekly), 52,800; freethinking literature, circulating small, and character much less objectionable than formerly; magazines, at 2d. and upwards per number (monthly), 374,316. Then came that phenomenon, the *Times* newspaper, which it was physically impossible could be produced in 1830 as it now appeared. The *Times*, he found, in that year, printed at the rate of 4,000 per hour, and then circulated daily 10,250; in 1860 it printed at the rate of 15,000 to 20,000 per hour, and circulated daily 53,000—thus furnishing what was supposed to be one of the most marvellous combinations of talent, enterprise, character, and mechanical appliances to be found in the world. There was another fact of peculiar significance, and that was that copies of the Holy Bible, the source of the purest morality and heavenly doctrine, were now multiplied beyond anything that the imagination could have conceived. It had been computed that the whole number of copies of the Scriptures in existence in the world before the present century did not exceed 4,000,000. There was one society—the British and Foreign Bible Society—of which the annual issues in 1831 were 470,929 Bibles and Testaments, and in the year 1860, 1,917,897 copies, or an increase of 307 per cent., and he believed the aggregate issue of Bibles in this country every year was now nearly 4,000,000, or as many as existed in the whole world before the present century. (Hear, hear.) He thought he might infer with certainty from that fact an increase in virtue and piety in this country. There were also numerous societies for the circulation of religious publications, but he would only mention one—the Religious Tract Society—the operations of which were most extraordinary. In the year 1831 that society issued 11,030,259 tracts and books, and in 1860 its issues were 41,710,203—being an increase of 276 per cent. These publications were chiefly intended for circulation among the poor. The extraordinary increase in the number of letters sent through the Post-office was, no doubt, mainly to be ascribed to the admirable measure of Sir Rowland Hill, reducing the postage to a penny. But it also indicated a very great increase in the mental activity of all classes of the people. The number of letters going through the post in the year 1839 was 82,471,000; in 1859 it was 544,796,000—being an increase in twenty years of 560 per cent. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Baines added other statistics in relation to the

increased consumption of paper, the augmentation of deposits in savings-banks, the formation of Friendly Societies, the spread of teetotalism [estimating the number of teetotalers at three millions], the decrease of crime, the great increase of religious and political meetings, and so forth.

THE DIVISION ON MR. BAINES'S BILL.

Amongst the absentee Liberals in last Wednesday's division were the following:—

Marquis of Hartington.	Sir George Grey.
Lord George Cavendish.	Sir Charles Wood.
Lord Edward Howard.	Sir F. Baring.
Lord Robert Clinton.	Sir J. Acton.
Earl Grosvenor.	Mr. H. Russell.
Lord Worsley.	Mr. T. G. Baring.
Lord Castlerosse.	Colonel H. White.
Lord Palmerston.	Colonel Greville.
Lord Proby.	Mr. W. Monsell.
Hon. A. Anson.	Mr. B. Gurdon.
Hon. Edward Coke.	Mr. H. W. Foley.
Hon. C. Fitzwilliam.	Mr. J. H. Foley.
Hon. F. Dundas.	Mr. M. Corbally.
Hon. M. Portman.	Mr. M. O'Ferrall.
Hon. W. O. Stanley.	Mr. K. Hugessen.
Hon. T. Mostyn.	Mr. Adeane.
Hon. Agar Elliee.	Major Gordon Duff.
Hon. C. Fortescue.	

Lord Palmerston and Sir C. Wood are stated to have been indisposed.

The following members who have previously supported Reform opposed Mr. Baines's bill:—

Lord John Browne.	Mr. Horsman.
Lord Alfred Hervey.	Mr. W. Beaumont.
Lord Eleho.	Mr. G. Harcourt.
Sir J. Ramsden.	General Buckley.
Sir T. Burke.	

Postscript.

Wednesday, April 17, 1861.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

POLAND.

BRESLAU, Tuesday.

Letters from Warsaw state that in every district petitions are being signed expressing gratitude towards, and confidence in, Count Zamoyksi, formerly President of the Agricultural Society, recently dissolved.

M. Lewinski having been called to assume the functions of Minister of the Interior for Poland, has made his acceptance of this office dependent on the fulfilment of three conditions, viz.:—That Count Zamoyksi should be appointed President of the Council of State, that the troops should be withdrawn into the citadel and barracks, and, finally, that citizens should be again allowed to do duty as constables.

The women of Warsaw refuse to discontinue wearing mourning, and are organising a pilgrimage to the shrine of the Virgin at Czestochowa.

The Russian authorities having left Lublin, authority is exercised by the municipality under the presidency of the bishop of the city. General Chruleff is marching upon Lublin.

BERLIN, Tuesday.

Disturbances have broken out at Kien, the capital of the Ukraine, in consequence of a funeral service for the victims of Warsaw. A bloody conflict took place between the inhabitants and the Russian troops. There were many killed and wounded.

LEMBURG, April 15 (Evening).

The Galician Diet has been opened. It demands the autonomy of this part of Poland.

THORN, Tuesday.

All dealers in arms in Warsaw have received orders to deliver the whole of their stock to the citadel.

Count Zamoyksi will only accept the Vice-Presidency of the Council of State, which has been offered to him, on condition of the military being withdrawn to their barracks, and a civic guard being established throughout the country. It is expected that the government will reject these conditions.

BLOCKADE OF THE ALBANIAN COAST.

PARIS, April 16.

The *Moniteur* of this morning publishes the official notification of the blockade of the coasts of Albania, from Durazzo to the neighbouring frontiers of Austria.

Turkish vessels are ordered regularly to maintain the blockade, which commenced on the 13th April, 1861.

ITALY.

NAPLES, April 12 (via Marseilles).

Forty persons coming from Rome have been arrested. A depot of arms and very important papers relative to a conspiracy have been discovered.

The health of Garibaldi has improved.

The accounts of the Pope's health we receive from Rome are still unfavourable, and intrigues with a view to his successor are said to be afoot.—*Letter from Turin.*

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, April 16.

An immense crowd of persons is assembled in St. Stephen's square. The palace of the Archbishop is occupied by a strong body of soldiers. Numerous mounted patrols and gendarmes are traversing the streets. The people are very quiet. The patrols maintain a calm and watchful attitude.

VIENNA, Tuesday.

The Galician diet has been opened. An address expressive of loyalty to the Emperor was voted by acclamation.

Neither Dalmatia nor Fiume have sent any representatives to the Croatian Diet.

AMERICA.

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald* says:—"I have reason to believe that the President will issue a proclamation in a few days summon-

ing Congress to assemble, allowing the legal time of sixty days to intervene between the date of the proclamation and the meeting of Congress." The object will be to amend the Morrill Tariff Act. It is said that certain importers are promptly availing themselves of the existing opportunity to introduce their merchandise into the New York market, via New Orleans and Mobile.

Bids for a United States' loan of eight million dollars were opened at Washington on the 2nd inst. The offers were for upwards of thirty millions, at rates ranging from 90 per cent. to par, averaging 93½ per cent. No bids less than 93.17 were to be accepted.

The St. Domingo affair has created some excitement at Washington, and will lead to a serious diplomatic correspondence with Spain.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

In the House of Lords, the LORD CHANCELLOR moved the second reading of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Bill, stating at length the provisions of the measure, and the evils of the present system to which it was intended to apply a remedy. Lord CHELMSFORD and Lord KINGSDOWN urged objections against various clauses of the bill, while they assented to its general principle. Lord CHELMSFORD in the course of his speech said that the bill had been skimmed over by the House of Commons, so that the work of putting it into shape might be performed by the Lords. To this the LORD CHANCELLOR retorted by stating that since the passing of the Reform Bill he had known of no measure which had received more anxious attention on the part of the Commons. He asked, moreover, how Lord Chelmsford could speak disparagingly of that House, with the spectacle of the empty benches around him, there being only four peers on one side and the same number on the other? After a few words from Lord WENSLYDALE the bill was read a second time.

The Law of Foreign Countries Bill, the Mutiny Bill, the Marine Mutiny Bill, the Exchequer Bills' Bill, and the Consolidated Fund (3,000,000) Bill were read a third time and passed.

The House adjourned at half-past eight.

STREET RAILWAYS.

In the Commons, at the time of private business, the Street Railway Company's Bill was brought on. Mr. CHILDERS, at the request of the promoters of the bill, moved that the second reading be postponed for a fortnight. Mr. V. SCULLY, however, moved that it be read a second time that day six months, on the ground that it gave an entire monopoly to one particular company, and that if introduced at all it should be as a Government measure. Mr. BRIGHT, on the other hand, pointed out that the bill was only a permissive one, and that it would not empower the company to do anything until they had obtained the sanction of the proper authorities. After some further discussion the amendment was carried without a division, and the bill was therefore lost.

Mr. WHALLEY gave notice for that day fortnight of a bill for the abolition of the grant to Maynooth.

A new writ was ordered to issue for the borough of Tynemouth, in the room of Mr. Hugh Taylor, resigned.

Mr. AUGUSTUS SMITH moved for a select committee to inquire into the rights of the crown and public, as well as of individuals, as connected with the foreshores and tidal waters of the United Kingdom. After some discussion, the motion was rejected by 176 to 67.

Sir F. SMITH was bringing forward the subject of the report of the commission on naval dockyards, when the House was counted out at ten minutes to eight o'clock.

MARRIAGE OF LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S DAUGHTER.

Yesterday the marriage of the Rev. H. Montagu Villiers, son of the Bishop of Durham, to Miss Victoria Russell, second daughter of the Right Hon. Lord John Russell, by his first marriage with Adelaide, daughter of Mr. Thomas Lister, of Armitage Park, Yorkshire, the widow of Thomas, second Lord Ribblesdale, took place at Petersham Church, near Richmond.

MARYLEBONE ELECTION.—The nomination of candidates for the honour of filling the vacancy in the representation of this borough takes place this morning, at 11 o'clock, at Park Crescent, Portland-place. As Sir R. W. Carden has come forward in the Conservative interest, so there is every probability of this being one of the most severe contests which the borough has seen for some years. Mr. Harvey Lewis, Mr. Wingrove Cooke, Mr. Marshman, and Mr. Twelvetees, each addressed numerous meetings of the electors in the course of yesterday and last evening in various parts of the borough.

INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND.—Last evening the total sum forwarded to the Lord Mayor in aid of the Indian Relief Fund amounted to nearly £47,000. A large number of sums were received during the day, amounting, in the whole, to considerably more than £3,000, being sums collected at the different churches in the metropolis.

GOVERNMENT AID TO VOLUNTEERS.—A meeting of officers commanding volunteer corps was held at the Thatched-house Tavern, yesterday, to confer with reference to the desirability of Government affording aid to the volunteers. Deputations attended from various parts of the country, and the Mayor of Bristol was called to the chair. The most important resolution passed was one to the effect that the amount of 1l. per man should be asked to enable the volunteers to defray some portion of their expenses.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The arrivals of English wheat fresh up to this morning's market were again on a very moderate scale, for the most part, in fair condition. All good and fine qualities moved off steadily, at full quotations; but inferior parcels were extremely difficult of sale, except at lower prices. The imports of foreign wheat have been to a fair average extent. All samples in good condition find buyers at quite previous rates. For other kinds, the trade rules heavy. Floating cargoes of grain are a dull inquiry, at barely late rates. Fine qualities of barley were quite as dear; but inferior samples moved off heavily, even at fully the late decline. Malt changed hands to a limited extent, on former terms. Oats sold freely, at fully the late advance in their value. For beans and peas, the trade ruled firm, at extreme currencies. Flour was in moderate request, at previous quotations.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Flour.
English	810	1,096	2,780	—	420
Irish	—	—	—	400	—
Foreign	10,460	2,050	—	2,770	720 sels.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"T. Nicholas."—His letter is too late for insertion.

"Allan Mallet."—We should have been glad to have inserted his letter had our space permitted.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 1861.

SUMMARY.

THE bright, dry, spring weather of the last week seems to have communicated a more cheerful aspect to political affairs at home and abroad. Apprehensions of war, though not dissipated, are further removed. Every one is content to wait rather than take the awful responsibility of an initiative which may wrap Europe in flames. Italy and Hungary seem as yet far off from the crisis which leads to the ultimate appeal. The sole object of Garibaldi's visit to Turin appears to be for the purpose of enforcing the claims of his volunteer officers; and his mode of action is not calculated to heal the breach between himself and the Government, nor, indeed, to increase his reputation with the national Parliament. Better would it be for his political influence that, like Baron Ricasoli, late Dictator for Tuscany, he should take his seat as a private citizen, than send messages to the Legislature like a Sovereign. This domestic difficulty, the chronic troubles of Naples, and the perplexities of the Papal question, are sufficient for some time to come to engross the attention of the Italian Government and people. The Hungarian Diet is proceeding leisurely, hesitating apparently to take those steps that will provoke a collision with the Imperial Government. But there are no signs that the Magyars are yielding. On the contrary, it is said that the Emperor, driven by the prospect of an empty exchequer, will allow them to have an independent Ministry if the Diet will recognise the right of the Central (Austrian) Government to manage all those matters which belong to the Departments of Foreign Affairs, War, and Finances. Meanwhile General Klapka promises that "if Hungary can come to terms with Austria upon the basis of the laws of 1848, the Hungarian emigres will abstain from any act which might compromise the future of their country."

It is difficult to ascertain from the fragmentary telegrams the drift of events in Poland, but it is evident that the late massacre has only given a fresh impulse to the national feeling, and that the effervescence extends all over the country, and into Posen and Galicia. There is a self-devotion and heroism among the Poles that will not easily be trampled out by Co-sack soldiers. The Warsaw slaughter has been followed by a similar tragedy at Kiew, while at Lublin the Russian officials have deemed it necessary to disappear altogether. In Warsaw itself the women take their stand by the side of their husbands and brothers, and the popular feeling finds a new vent in the signature of memorials expressing gratitude towards and confidence in Count Zamoyski, formerly President of the Agricultural Society, recently dissolved. The Czar, it would seem, is not quite satisfied with his bloody work, as he has offered this popular nobleman the Vice-Presidency of the Council of State. But the Count is in no haste to accept this insidious offer, and has attached to it conditions which the Government is adverse to grant.

The Report of the Education Commission has at present excited little discussion throughout the country; and it is yet too early to learn how that document is likely to be received by the various parties who are specially interested in the subject. It was, however, prominently alluded to in the report of the Auxiliary to the Congregational Board at the annual meeting held last week at Halifax. The Yorkshire free educationists are nothing discouraged by the outcome of that inquiry. They have in a succinct form brought out those strong facts in the Commissioners' Report, which tell most strongly in favour of voluntarism, and have distinctly affirmed a determination to maintain their inde-

pendent position in reference to education by adopting the following resolution:—

That this meeting relies with confidence on the unexceptionable excellence of the principles of voluntary and religious education, as most consistent with justice to all sections of the people, with the rights of conscience, with the unrestricted freedom of religious and secular instruction, and with the self-relying spirit of the population. That, as the system of the Privy Council has been proved to be one attended with enormous cost, and to have become all but unmanageable to the central office, whilst only about one-third of the public elementary schools are brought under its care; that a minority of the Commissioners on the recent Education Commission were of opinion that Government interference with education might be safely and wisely discontinued, whilst some who have held office under the Privy Council recommend to place the grants on a slowly expiring scale, and to leave education to the independent efforts of the people; that the recommendations of the majority of the Commissioners prove that the Government system must of necessity be greatly modified; that the modifications proposed would not, however, remove the objections felt to Governmental interference by the friends of voluntary and religious education; and that it is therefore their duty to maintain their own honourable independence and their efforts on behalf of the Congregational Board of Education, which has rendered the most important services to the cause of education in this country.

This day the borough of Marylebone will be called upon to choose a successor to Mr. Edwin James, whose sudden fall from the political firmament has excited more than ordinary sensation and speculation. There is a superabundance of good, Liberal candidates; and it is a great pity that all cannot be elected. If, however, the respective supporters of Messrs. Lewis, Cooke, Marshman, and Twelvrees should deem it advisable to carry their favourites to the poll, there is a considerable probability that Sir R. W. Carden, notwithstanding his experience in the practically disfranchised city of Gloucester, his want of position as a politician, and his fanatical adulation of Lord Derby when Lord Mayor of London, may slip into the vacant seat. Though the election of such a man for Marylebone would be something like a joke, the want of union amongst the Liberal party in the borough gives him a chance of misrepresenting Marylebone. Such a result would be all the more disastrous at the present moment, as it is quite possible that the Tories may be incited by the *Times* to offer a party opposition to Mr. Gladstone's Budget.

Further intelligence from Eastern Africa announces the return of Dr. Livingstone to the mouth of the Zambesi from his journey to the interior. Such of his faithful Makololo companions as survived have, after their long absence, been restored to their homes. Dr. Livingstone has shown that he can keep his word; and it is hoped that the illustrious traveller's subsequent interview with "King Sekelutu" will have been the means of removing all obstacles to the settlement of missionaries in that region. It appears from a letter from Sir R. Murchison that Dr. Livingstone's last journey has not been barren of results. He has made considerable additions to geographical and geological knowledge. "Thus (says the President of the Geographical Society), he has defined the course of the chief affluents of the Zambesi, the depth of that river at different seasons, and the nature and extent of its rapids. He has also ascertained that the coal of the sandstone region (which I believe to be the true old coal) is vastly extended to the East, the mineral frequently reappearing in natural outcrops over a very wide area." The arrival of his new steamboat, the Pioneer, at the Zambesi, has enabled Dr. Livingstone to resume his explorations in the interior.

The disruption of the American Republic must now be considered final. "The South will never go back to the Union" is the impression of the special correspondent of the *Times*, whose first letter from Washington has been published. Mr. Russell draws a curious picture of the state of affairs in the Northern States. A dead calm prevails at New York and Washington, which is little disturbed "by the daily announcement that Fort Sumpter is evacuated, that the South is arming, and the Morrill Tariff is ruining the trade of the country." President Lincoln is beset day and night by office-seekers, and his unceasing activity is beginning to tell upon his health. While commerce is paralysed in the Northern ports by the action of the new tariff, and the policy of the Government is vacillating, though pacific, the Southern Confederation is acting with unity and vigour. "She is confident in her own destiny. She feels strong enough to stand alone. She believes her mission is one of extension and conquest—her leaders are men of singular political ability and undaunted resolution. She has but to stretch forth her hand, as she believes, and the Gulf becomes an American lake closed by Cuba." Such a policy as is here indicated seems likely to result only in the speedier downfall of slavery, in quarrels with other States, and in the creation of a military despotism. Very soon the population of the Southern States may regret a change, which will bring with it chronic disturbance and increased taxation.

THE BUDGET OF 1861-62.

MR. GLADSTONE has again been true to himself. Once more he has laid before the country a financial statement which will uphold his lofty reputation, and will give a character to the Session. We know not what his colleagues think of his genius, nor how far they have resisted his plans in Cabinet Councils—but of this we are convinced, that, as on two former occasions, so now, he has redeemed the Administration from the contempt into which it was fast falling. Their difficulties appear to be his opportunities. Perhaps, on no former occasion, has the Chancellor of the Exchequer more agreeably disappointed the expectations of the country than he did on Monday night. A dense mass of misty illusions, engendered partly by political malignity, partly, we fear, by treachery in one or more of his colleagues or subordinates, and partly by the selfish apprehensions of the plutocracy of this metropolis, lifted up like a vapour-wreath under the influence of his clear statements, his searching analyses, and his "irresistible logic of facts," and, before he had done, had utterly melted away, leaving nothing to be seen but the mild sunshine of truth. No doubt Mr. Gladstone has his battles yet to fight—but, at any rate, they will be fought this year in the House of Commons only—and there, we have not the smallest misgiving, he will win them—for the creations of his genius within the domains of finance are always strong enough to vindicate their own importance, and to awe down factious opposition.

Mr. Gladstone's Budget speeches have usually, and on Monday night emphatically, consisted of matter so fraught with vigorous thinking, so instinct with lofty principles, so illustrated by copious and pertinent facts, and touching at so many points great and diversified interests, that it is impossible to do them common justice, without deviating, to some extent, from the beaten track of editorial comment. We need hardly, therefore, apologise to our readers for adopting in the present instance a method differing from that which is customary with us, by which we hope to bring out into distinct relief the salient features of the Chancellor's financial statement. We will first review that portion of it devoted to

A RETROSPECT OF THE PAST YEAR.

It was estimated by Mr. Gladstone that during the financial year commencing April 1, 1860, and ending March 31, 1861, the Government of the country would spend the enormous, and, for a time of peace, the unprecedented sum of 73,664,000*l.* Its disbursements, however, fell somewhat short of this. It actually spent 72,842,000*l.*, being less than the estimated expenditure by 822,000*l.* The receipts for the same period, from all sources, he calculated at 72,248,000*l.*—the revenue actually paid was 70,283,000*l.*—a difference of 1,965,000*l.* on the wrong side of the account. Mr. Gladstone, for the purposes of calculation, calls it 2,000,000*l.* The saving in expenditure was owing entirely to smaller payments than had been estimated on account of the war with China, and inasmuch as Mr. Gladstone had 822,000*l.* less to pay than he had provided for, the difference reduced by that sum the excess of actual expenditure over estimated income. But the deficit was more apparent than real. In the first place, the year consisted of three less days, so far as the Exchequer is concerned, than the year preceding—it had no 29th of February in it, and it included two Good Fridays and an extra Sunday. Now, every working day in the year brings in, on the average, about 100,000*l.* of duties—so that here were 300,000*l.* accounted for which cannot be fairly set down as actual deficit. In the next place, there were drawbacks on stocks really belonging to last year's account, and some other but minor deductions which, brought down the real difference between the year's expenditure and the year's receipts to about 855,000*l.*, further reduced by the temporary resources of last year to about 500,000*l.* And what a year it was! "A year," as Mr. Gladstone observed, "marked by a succession of seasons—the spring, the summer, the autumn, the winter—the most unhappy with which it has pleased Providence to visit us for the course of half a century."

DEFICIENCY OF INCOME TRACED TO ITS SOURCE.

Taking into consideration the wet spring, the bad harvest, and the bitter winter, one is rather surprised that the receipts for the year show so little diminution than so much. But as it has been the fashion of late to attribute this misfortune far more to Mr. Gladstone's untimely and reckless experiments in finance, than to the dispensations of Providence, it is worth while to go somewhat into detail, in order to see whether his arrangements really aggravated, or ameliorated, the distress produced by bad seasons, and whether the revenue of the country suffered or improved in consequence of the Commercial Treaty with France, and the simplification of the Tariff. It appears, according to the Chan-

cellor of the Exchequer's statement, that the revenue produced last year by stamps, taxes, Income-tax, Post-office, Crown lands, and miscellaneous income, was estimated at 27,457,000*l.* in the aggregate, and actually produced 27,542,000*l.*, so that the deficit is not to be found in that quarter. As to the customs, they were estimated to yield 23,430,000*l.*—they actually yielded 23,305,000*l.*—a difference of 125,000*l.* Tea, sugar, and tobacco, which together produce about 17,000,000*l.* were entirely stationary. Timber, currants, hops, raisins, and figs were the principal duties reduced last session. The remissions on all of them together amounted to 663,000*l.*—the loss to the revenue was 529,000*l.*, showing an increased consumption during a most exceptional year, to the extent of 134,000*l.* The relief to consumers in the article of spirits, was 46,000*l.*—the actual gain to the revenue was 79,000*l.* As to wine, the remissions of duty last year were 830,000*l.*—the actual loss was only 493,000*l.*

We come now to the excise duties. They were estimated at 21,361,000*l.*—they yielded 19,435,000*l.*, leaving a deficit of 1,926,000*l.* This deficit arose on three articles—on hops there was a failure to the amount of 300,000*l.*—on malt, one of 800,000*l.*—both accounted for by the miserable harvest. Spirits yielded 900,000*l.* less than the amount estimated, which Mr. Gladstone showed to have arisen mainly from the fact that the trade have been drawing considerably on the stock on which duty had been paid previously to the commencement of the financial year; and he demonstrated that the increase of duties on spirits had invariably required some length of time to bring into full operation so as to tell favourably on the revenue. The increase of last year has not had time to produce its inevitable results—nor, happily, has it stimulated illicit distillation. Here, then, in the three articles above named,—hops, malt, and spirits—we discover the whole deficiency on the year's income. The two former have suffered under the blight of the season—the last results, not from a remission, but from an increase of taxation. We see now with what reason Mr. Gladstone's "reckless finance" has been charged with the failure in the year's revenue. As to the effects of that financial system on the commerce of the country, they may be summed up in few words. Of the articles left untouched by the changes of 1860, the imports have been nearly stationary; of those on which taxation was reduced, the imports have improved 17½ per cent; of those on which the duties were repealed, the imports have increased 48½ per cent. So much, therefore, for the misrepresentations which have charged upon the financial system of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the awkwardness of trade, and the deficiency of the national income, during the year 1860-61.

OUR PROFLIGATE EXPENDITURE.

The sum which the Chancellor of the Exchequer is called upon to provide for during the year commenced is 69,900,000*l.* The interest on the funded and unfunded debt will be 26,860,000*l.* Charges on the Consolidated Fund, 1,930,000*l.* Army and militia, 15,256,000*l.* Navy, 12,029,000*l.* China, 1,000,000*l.* Miscellaneous services, 7,727,000*l.* Collection of revenue, 4,780,000*l.* Packet service, 995,000*l.*—in round numbers making a sum total of 70,000,000*l.* In 1853, Mr. Gladstone reminded the House our Imperial expenditure was under 56,000,000*l.*, and the local expenditure was under 16,000,000*l.* Last year, Imperial taxation rose to 73,000,000*l.*, local expenditure to 18,000,000*l.*—together producing the enormous total of 91,000,000*l.* What does this mean? he asks. The annual savings of the country he estimates at 50,000,000*l.*, which, added together for eight years, represents 400,000,000*l.* If we put upon that sum an interest of 5 per cent., it gives 20,000,000*l.* as the aggregate result of the whole savings of the nation for eight years, which is absorbed and swallowed up in the growth of its expenditure. "For my own part," said Mr. Gladstone, "I am deeply convinced that all real excess in the public expenditure beyond the legitimate wants of the country is not only pecuniary waste, but is a great political and moral error." He believed that it was this evil which, in several European countries, constituted so fearful and so menacing a danger as even to aim at the destruction and very existence of the monarchy. He placed his chief hope for the future in retrenchment. He thought he saw a turning of the tide—and while deprecating all sweeping proceedings, he expressed his hope that considerable savings might hereafter be judiciously effected in the Estimates. "If," said he, "this country can be as steady and as wise in the use of her treasures as she is unexampled in her productions—if she be as moderate in the exercise of her strength as she is rich in the possession of it—we may hope there is reserved for England a great work to do on her own part and on the part of others, and

that for many generations yet to come she will continue to hold her forward place amongst the nations of the earth."

WHENCE THE YEAR'S INCOME IS TO BE DERIVED.

Taking the year's expenditure at 70,000,000*l.*, in round numbers, how does Mr. Gladstone propose to provide for it? Assuming the sources of revenue to stand pretty much as they do, the Tea and Sugar duties and the Income-tax remaining unaltered, he calculates that, taking into account the doubling of the duty on chicory, certain small alterations and modifications of the Stamp duties, and 750,000*l.* expected as indemnity from China, that the taxation of the year would yield about 71,823,000*l.*—an excess of income over expenditure of 1,923,000*l.* He did not propose to retain so large a balance in the hands of the Government. He wished to divide it as equally as he could between direct and indirect tax-payers. He should propose, therefore, to remit a penny of the Income-tax for three quarters of the year, reducing the 10*d.* to 9*d.*, and the 7*d.* to 6*d.*, which would cost him 850,000*l.* He intended also to propose the repeal from October next, of the PAPER-DUTY, which would occasion a nett loss in the year of 665,000*l.* This would dispose of 1,515,000*l.* of his surplus, and leave him a margin of 408,000*l.* He proposed to submit his various alterations to the House in the form of resolutions, and he would then combine the whole in a single bill, thus making it impossible for the Lords to modify his Budget without endangering the most important items of revenue which the country possesses. He means, moreover, to restrict the force of the measure to a single year, so that room would be afforded for reduction of taxation next year.

CONCLUSION.

We have given no account of the minor alterations which Mr. Gladstone proposes. They are various, and are chiefly intended to facilitate the working of the Tariff of last year. They remove some obstructions to the expansion of trade, and some annoying restrictions upon the rights of consumers. The great features of the Budget, however, are the simultaneous remission of a penny in the pound of the Income-tax, and the repeal of the Paper-duty. The two are ingeniously put together in one measure—nor is there much probability that the one will be accepted and the other refused. If we may judge from the tone in which these propositions were commented upon by various members of the House of Commons on Monday night, there seems little doubt that the Budget will be thankfully accepted. It makes a beginning in reducing the Income-tax, which, Mr. Gladstone remarks, may be wholly repealed as soon as the country is content to be governed at a cost of 60,000,000*l.* a-year instead of 70,000,000*l.*; and it closes in a dignified manner the controversy with the Lords. The carrying of this budget will do something towards redeeming the lost credit of the present House of Commons—and this, it strikes us, they themselves perceive. The man whom they have most worried and vilified has done his best to save their credit; and by saving that, he rescues also the Liberal party, and the Liberal Government, from their most pressing danger. His protest against extravagant expenditure will not be forgotten; and the firmness and courage with which he has adhered to all the great principles of sound financial policy, in spite of the warnings, insinuations, menaces, and assaults of his pretended friends and his avowed foes, will be recognised and appreciated by his admiring fellow-countrymen. In fact, his political wisdom transcends his eloquence, and his eloquence transcends that of all other living statesmen.

THE REFORM DEBATE AND DIVISION.

THE hostility of the Commons to Parliamentary Reform becomes more manifest as the session advances. Emboldened by the rejection of Mr. Locke King's measure for reducing the county franchise to 10*l.*—which was defeated by 28—the House has thrown out Mr. Baines's Borough Franchise Bill, by the more decisive majority of 52. Nothing appears to have been neglected that would diminish the importance of last Wednesday's discussion. Until the time approached for the division the attendance was very meagre, and not a single Cabinet Minister, or leading member of the Opposition, condescended to open his lips. Though thirty fewer members took part in the vote, the majority was nearly double that of March 13. There is an end to Parliamentary Reform for the present session. Nevertheless, the debate and division will go far to keep alive the general interest in the question, to shew the safety and wisdom of a large infusion of new blood into the electoral body, and to enable reformers to discriminate between their real and pretended friends in the House of Commons.

During the many Reform discussions of the

last three years a more complete and convincing vindication of the necessity and policy of a large extension of the suffrage has not been made than was contained in Mr. Baines's opening speech. He showed by an array of facts, carefully arranged and cumulative in their force, that since the last Reform Bill the progress of the great body of the people in intelligence, education, morals, and religion, as well as in external circumstances, has been without precedent in the history of any nation. During these thirty years we have advanced in every direction except in the concession of political rights. Those who cordially helped the middle classes to enfranchisement in 1830, still stand outside the pale of the constitution in 1860, and ask in vain for admission. In truth, the interesting review of the hon. member for Leeds proved more than his case. If the advancement of the working classes has been so remarkable during the last quarter of a century, why confer the franchise on no more than a bare 150,000 of them? His speech will strengthen the conviction that a 6*l.* qualification is inadequate to the occasion, and that nothing short of a household suffrage will meet the altered circumstances of the working classes. Should Wednesday's debate help to bury for ever Lord John Russell's inadequate concession, it will not have been without practical result.

If that discussion has rather helped than injured the cause of Parliamentary reform, it has also lowered the present House of Commons more than ever in public estimation. The moral aspect of the question was very vividly presented by Mr. Stansfeld in an effective speech, which has placed him in a very advanced position amongst Parliamentary debaters. In a few epigrammatic sentences he fastened upon the House the responsibility of having brought reform to its present position:—

The House had tried its *coup d'état* against the public morality of the country, and the country had not risen in overwhelming indignation to protest against it. What followed from this conclusion? Those who sought for every opportunity of evading reform—those who hoped from those endeavours to gain an indemnity for the past, seemed to forget that public opinion was not bound to be ready, at a moment's notice, to answer their call; they did not seem to be aware that public opinion in these days required public men to divine and anticipate its decrees; they seemed to forget that time did not run against the nation's right of judgment; and when the hour came, as it would come, for pronouncing its irreversible verdict, it would free the Reformers from any solidarity with those who opposed the measure, and visit the offence of evading the question of reform on the heads of those whose professions had been ventured without faith, and who had abandoned them without shame. (Cheers.)

Parliamentary reform, then, may yet prove the Nemesis of Lord Palmerston's Government, and break up that party which was constituted on the understanding that it was to be the cardinal feature of their policy. The bonds of allegiance of the Liberals to their chiefs—already greatly weakened by past delinquencies—may be said to have been dissolved by Wednesday's division. Reform was then an open question. Of what value were the votes of Lord John Russell, Mr. Gladstone, and Sir G. C. Lewis in its favour, when some five other members of the Government declined to support it, and thirty Whigs were emboldened to proclaim by their absence that hostility which they have heretofore concealed? When it is seen that amongst the deserters are the names of Cavendish, Clinton, Grosvenor, Fitzwilliam, Grey, and Howard, the public can not only estimate the strength of aristocratic influence that is opposed to reform, but will draw the conclusion that, as long as the great families which have the Upper Chambers to themselves are so powerfully represented in the Commons, there is little hope of "retrenchment or reform," or indeed of any Liberal progress. We are much mistaken if the next movement for reform be not accompanied with a demand for the extinction of nomination boroughs.

"BEGGAR MY NEIGHBOUR."

WEDNESDAY's division in the House of Commons throws no little light on Thursday's debate. We now see clearly enough that it is not authentic information that the House of Commons wants to enable it to fix the amount of the Estimates. Do we need twelve millions for our navy?—is a question somewhat impertinent to the powerful interests that have their way in the "People's House," and desire immense armaments for other than public objects. Mr. Gladstone may well utter his warnings as to our "excessive," or as Mr. Osborne more suitably phrased it, "profligate" expenditure. If the personal testimony of Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Dalglish (the latter of whom has recently been to Toulon and Cherbourg), and the rigid inquiries of Sir Morton Peto, are to be relied on, the report of great naval preparations in France is a mere bugbear. We will refer only to one

of these cases. Sir Morton recently asked a friend, an engineer of high standing, to visit all the ports of France, and see what was doing, and ascertain whether a statement of the French Minister of Marine, which, having been repeated in the House of Commons, had been received with incredulity on the Treasury Bench, was correct. The result of this inquiry was thus stated on Thursday night:—

He did so, and reported that the Minister of Marine had rather overstated the amount of work that was going on. At Toulon, Rochefort, and other ports there was not the least sign of activity, the only vessels preparing being the six which were ordered in 1858, and even they were not so advanced as had been stated, the Normandie not having a single plate upon her sides.

The simple facts stated by one and another in the debate referred to, as to the absence of all naval activity in France, could not be met—were not met. But they have produced no practical effect on the House of Commons. We are still to go on playing the game of "beggar my neighbour," though France has really taken no part in it, and, by the admission of Lord Clarence Paget himself, we have seventeen steam line of battle ships more than all the other nations of the world combined. We trust, therefore, that when next *Punch* gives a cartoon of "Beggars my neighbour" he will shift the dramatic personæ, that they may harmonise with the actual facts.

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE KWANG-SI INSURRECTION.

We give this week a further portion of the interesting communication from the Rev. Griffith John, of Shanghai, relative to the character opinions, institutions and prospects of the Taiping Chinese, reserving till our next some remarks on the pretensions and beliefs of their king, and the policy of our missionaries and the British nation in relation to the new dynasty.

Third. Can these men be regarded in any other light than that of lawless marauders?

There are not a few who think and speak of them as such. The magistrate of the town in which I am now writing does not view them in this light. "Thieves," said he, the other day, when I called upon him, "seek nothing but plunder, and are satisfied with it; but the long-haired rebels are aiming at the throne." The fact that they have a regular system of government; that the persons and property of their subjects are protected and respected; that the people open markets for them and are paid the full value for all they sell; that foreigners can travel (as we did) night and day through their territory without molestation from either the soldiers or the people, and that they aim at nothing less than the subversion of the Manchu and the establishment of a native dynasty, these facts, and such as these, are a conclusive answer to the above question. The Chief Kings and the majority of the officers discountenance the burning of houses, and the plundering and murdering of the people. On these points the Chung-wang's orders are very strict. At Su Chen, and other cities, proclamations are posted up on the walls and the city gates, forbidding all these under the penalty of decapitation. These atrocities are not essential, but accidental, to the movement. It is true that the state of the cities and towns, from Su Chen to Nankin, proves that the work of destruction has been carried on to a fearful extent. Houses in heaps, widows and orphans in mourning, old men and women, with broken hearts and downcast looks, moving slowly and timidly among the ruins, and dead bodies in various stages of decomposition, are objects which continually meet the eye and sicken the heart. I have no desire whatever to exculpate the insurgents by becoming their special pleader. They are guilty of having brought a vast amount of misery, which might have been avoided, upon the people. Still, it is but simple justice to them to ascertain the nature and the amount of their crime, before pronouncing a judgment. Much of the burning, as well as of other works of destruction, is done by the Imperialists themselves before the arrival of the insurgents. Such was the case at Su Chen. The King Chung found the place in a blaze, and he offered a large reward to anyone who would undertake to quench the devouring element. The extremities to which the insurgents had been reduced in the city of Nankin, and the suddenness, completeness, and greatness of their subsequent victory, must be taken into consideration. Cut off from all supplies by the besieging army of Chang-Koh-liang, the kings, officers, and soldiers, were reduced to congee and roots. Starvation stared them in the face. Just at this time deliverance came. The King Zing came from the north, and the King Chung from the south, and surrounded the Imperialist army with 200,000 men. On the second day of the fourth moon the Imperialist host was put to flight, and a most brilliant victory was won by the insurgents! The barrier having been removed, this huge army, like a mighty cataract rolling down with an irresistible impetuosity and sweeping everything before it, pursued the enemy from city to city and town to town, till on the thirteenth day of the fourth moon, only eleven days after the first victory, Su Chen was entered triumphantly. Is it to be wondered at that such a body of men, burning with a spirit of revenge, and elated with such a series of triumphs, should commit many atrocious deeds. They regarded the people as guilty in their opposition to them, and as such deserving a severe chastisement.

In the vicinity of Shanghai, we witness the very worst feature in their character. Had the Shanghai district been in their possession from the time they paid us a visit, looting and impressment would have died away long ago. In the insurgent territory there is no looting. The people are protected, and private property is respected. The Shanghai district and parts of the neighbouring districts are in the Imperialist territory. The people have refused to yield allegiance. On these grounds, the insurgents believe that they have a right

to plunder them to the utmost. They are enemies, and are to be treated as such.

Again, it should not be forgotten that tens of thousands of the very vilest characters have recently joined them from the Imperialist army and of the Honan Filchers. These are very different from the "old rebels." They know absolutely nothing of religion. The people generally speak of the latter as kind and conciliatory, whilst they represent the former as everything that is bad and hateful. We would do well to remember, also, that the insurgents are not alone in this respect. Even Christian nations are capable of deeds of cruelty and rapine, equal to anything recorded of the insurgents. Follow the bloody track of the British conqueror in India. Behold towns in flames, fields strewn with bodies of the slain and the murdered, rivers crimsoned with blood, homes rifled, and the quivering lips and uplifted hands of thousands muttering curses and calling down vengeance. Listen to the frantic cries of the broken-hearted widow, the sighs of the orphan, and the tales of woe which the aged are wont to tell. But we need not go to India. If report be true, a faithful history of the war which has just been brought to a close with this empire, would reveal deeds of spoliation and cruelty, which even the insurgents would find hard to contemplate without a blush for our common humanity. The burning of the suburbs of the city of Shanghai, and the reckless destruction of property at the Emperor's palace, equal, if not surpass, anything perpetrated by the insurgents. And the conduct of the English and French at Shanghai towards the "rebels," far exceeds, in point of atrocity, the most infamous deeds of the perfidious Tartars in the north.

We mention these things, not to excuse their real crimes, but to show that they are crimes which accompany war in every age and in every country, whether waged by Christians or pagans. Compared with the Imperialist army they shine. The crimes of the one are the wild freaks of a wayward boy, whilst those of the other are the inveterate, incorrigible, and ingrained habits of an abandoned old man.

Fourth. What portion of the country do they possess?

They say that they have the best portions of six provinces, namely, Kiang Su, Kiang Si, Nganhwei, Kwangsi, Si Chwan, and Honan. I find that they are now pushing their way into the very heart of Shan-tung province. Chang-loh-hing, the head of the Honan Filchers, has sworn allegiance to the Celestial King, and has been promoted to the rank of Chütsang, which stands next to that of king. He is now with a large army only sixty miles from the capital of this province. He has a much larger army than that of the Imperialists. We must wait and see what the spring will bring forth.

Fifth. What is their numerical strength?

Though I have made repeated inquiries on this point, I have not been able to obtain any definite information. They are far stronger than they have ever been. Within the last two years they have had large accessions to their number. All the Honan Filchers have been incorporated in the insurgent army. Tens of thousands of Chang-koh-liang soldiers were taken prisoners of war at Nankin and Tanyang. They likewise are scattered among the army. Besides the above, thousands of the people have been impressed.

Sixth. What are their prospects? Are they likely to succeed?

If left alone to fight their own battle, without the interference of foreign nations, they have every prospect of a signal and speedy (Chinese speed, of course) success. Whatever may become of the Celestial King, the Kwangsi insurrection must triumph. There is no power in China to put it down. All minor insurrections have been lost in it. The Tartars, unaided, might as well attempt to blow the sun out of the heavens, as to attempt to quench this flame. They did their utmost when far stronger than they are now or ever will be again, but in vain. The Tartar power is a myth, a phantom, at which the insurgents can afford to laugh.

Unintentionally, we have done much to hasten on the downfall of the existing dynasty. The series of defeats which they have sustained have given the people of China an insight into the weakness of their masters, such as they never had before. The spell has been broken for ever. They believe in their invincibility no longer. "Every dynasty," remarked a very superior scholar, and formerly a very devoted Imperialist, not many days since, "Every dynasty has its four seasons. The existing one has passed through its first three, and is now far advanced in its fourth. The next must be either English, French, or Russian." Such is the general sentiment touching the speedy downfall of the tottering Manchu dynasty.

Intentionally, however, we have done our best to breathe a new life into this dead carcass, and to quench the youthful ardour of the rising giant. In holding Shanghai for the Imperialists, the insurgents have received a very severe check in their onward march, and their prospects have been considerably overcast. With Shanghai in their hands, the work of conquering and reorganising would move apace. As it is, the former must progress more slowly, and the latter be postponed indefinitely.

We must not expect the work to be accomplished in China with the same rapidity as it would be accomplished in the West, where everything moves on at railway speed. Almost every dynastic change in China has been preceded by twenty, thirty, and forty years of contest and anarchy. The Kwangsi insurrection is still in its decade. A Chinaman would think this nothing.

Seventh. May they in any sense of the term be called Christians?

They hate idolatry with perfect hatred. The chief regards it as the great curse of China, and is determined to sweep every vestige of it from the land. "Let the foreign brethren know," says the King Chang, "that we are determined to uproot idolatry out of the land, and plant Christianity in its stead." They worship one God, the creator and preserver of all things. They believe in Jesus Christ as the Saviour of the world from sin and hell. They believe in the Holy Spirit as the regenerator and sanctifier. They believe in the doctrine of providence.

In opposition to the pantheistic notions of the philosophers of the Sung dynasty, they hold the doctrine of the personality of the Deity; in opposition to the popular polytheistic notions, they have the clearest conception of the unity of God; and in opposition to the fatalism of philosophical Buddhism, they believe in and

teach the doctrine of an all-superintending Providence. The Deity is not, in their opinion, an abstract notion, nor a stern implacable sovereign, but a loving father, who watches tenderly over their movements and interests, and leads them by the hand. It is from a profound conviction of the fact itself, and the practical importance of the fact, that the chief teaches his people that the "Supreme Lord" is "Tien Fu," Heavenly Father.

They receive the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the infallible word of God. They have printed and published the whole of the New, and the Old to the Book of Judges. In their yearly examinations the themes are selected by the Celestial King from the Bible. I have an essay in my possession on the "fall and the deluge." They believe in a future state of rewards and punishments.

There can be no doubt of their belief in these important doctrines; and if this creed was not mixed up with errors no one would hesitate to pronounce them Christians. Unfortunately, the enemy has been active in sowing tares among the wheat. Their errors are neither few nor insignificant.

One of the worst features in the movement was the pretensions of the Eastern and Western Kings to Divine revelations and heavenly visions. Nothing can be more disgusting than the lengthened accounts given of the descent of the "Heavenly Father" and of the Heavenly Elder Brother on various occasions. The abominable twaddle which is put in the mouth of the infinite God sounds blasphemous. In this we discover not only ignorance, but the very blackest passions of our corrupt nature, manifesting themselves. Strange though it may seem to us, still it is a fact, that these pretended visions are solemnly believed in, even now, by the kings, officers, and soldiers. The throne of the chief is partially built upon them.

Polygamy is another dark spot which mars this movement. The Chief, king—the Kan-wang not excepted—and all the other officers, have a plurality of wives. The custom was introduced by the Eastern King. It has taken deep root by this time.

They entertain notions touching the Supreme which are not free from error. They teach that he is not a pure Spirit. The Chief maintains that he has a form. This error is one into which the human mind may easily fall, from its impotence to grasp the idea of a pure spirit. Some of the fathers ascribed corporeality to God. Tertullian asks *Quis negavit deum Corpus esse, dei Deus spiritus est?* One who had been sitting at the feet of Him who spoke as no man spake, made the request, "Show us the Father."

On the doctrine of the Trinity and the divine nature of Christ, the views of the Chief are positively wrong; those of the Kan-wang are strictly scriptural; and those of the others are defective. The nature of Christ, the personal distinction and essential unity of the three persons in the Godhead, and such questions, are points to which the latter have given but little, if any attention. They simply believe in the Father the creator, in Christ the saviour, and in the Holy Ghost the regenerator and sanctifier. Of the influence of this belief on their moral character, I can say nothing.

The Sabbath, though not strictly observed at present, is regarded by them as a day of spiritual worship. In the capital, on Friday night, about nine or ten o'clock, guns are fired to announce that the hour of prayer is at hand. In about an hour afterwards, another gun is fired to announce that the hour of prayer is closed. Throughout the city, they all meet at this hour, family by family—no congregated multitude—to worship the true God. On the following morning, the kings repair to the palace of the Celestial King to worship the "Heavenly Father." The amount of Christian knowledge they possess varies considerably. That of the Kwangsi and Canton men, who have been taught by the chief himself, is more extensive. With some of these I have had delightful conversations on religious subjects. That of the soldiers is limited to two or three elementary truths. They can nearly all repeat the doctrine and their daily prayer. Such is their religious belief, theological errors, and the extent of their religious knowledge. Let the reader judge for himself whether they may be called Christians or no.

Eighth. Does the Chief receive the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament as the Word of God?

Yes, decidedly.

Ninth. Does he receive Divine honours?

This has been erroneously affirmed. From the testimony of the soldiers, officers, kings, and his own, it is evident that he does not. They seemed shocked with an instinctive sense of impropriety whenever the question was put to them. All the worship they pay to him is to repeat the "Wan swei, wan swei, wan wan swei," "May the kingdom for ten thousand, ten thousand, ten thousand times ten thousand years"—may the king—live for ever. They understand the distinction between Divine worship and a mere court etiquette perfectly well.

Tenth. Do they grant full permission to missionaries to live and preach the Gospel in their territory?

They have done this. I have brought with me an edict to this effect, written by the young Prince on satin with the vermilion pencil, and stamped with the imperial seal. "I learn," says the young Prince in this interesting document, "that the Rev. G. J. and his friends have come to seek permission to spread abroad the true doctrine. Seeing, however, that the present is a time of war, and that the soldiers are scattered abroad in every direction, I am truly afraid that the missionaries might be injured by falling among the rabble soldiery, and that thus serious consequences might ensue. Still, I secretly perceive that the missionaries are sincere and faithful men, and that they count it nothing to suffer with Christ, and because of this I esteem them very highly. Let the kings inform all the officers that they must act graciously and lovingly towards these men, and by no means engender contention and strife. Let all know that God, Christ, my father, and myself, are one family and one person (that is, one in sympathy, interest, and aim), and let the missionaries be treated exceedingly well. Respect this." They have given this permission not in ignorance of, but with their eyes perfectly open to the difference which exists between them and ourselves, and the possible consequences which may spring from a collision of sentiment. They are quite willing and anxious that missionaries should go at once among the people to propagate Christianity. So far as the people are concerned, they throw the door wide open at once and for ever.

I cannot say that they are anxious that they should go

among the officers and soldiers at present. They fear two things, namely, the possibility of the missionaries being accidentally injured, and the probability that the detection of error would shake the confidence of the army in the Celestial King, and thereby undermine his throne. This apprehension, however, is temporary; it will pass away when the throne is firmly established. Many of the chiefs seem to entertain no fears on this score.

This edict, however, opens up the cities as well as the country. "Let any of the missionaries come among us," said the chiefs Lié, Hing, and Chun, at Sé Cheu, "and it will be all right. We will furnish them with houses and chapels. Though," said the Kan-wang, "I should be very sorry for an injudicious man to come among us in our present condition, still, should any come, even to Nankin, the edict binds us to receive them." As to the propriety, safety, and utility of casting one's lot among them at present, each missionary must judge for himself.

The *Spectator* contains an article describing the peculiarities and progress of the Chinese insurrection, in which the "bitter brevity" of Lord John Russell in the recent debate is strongly censured. "In spite of the Foreign Secretary," says our contemporary, "it is still more than doubtful whether sufficient attention has been paid to these Taepings; whether that quaint name does not conceal a real movement, affecting, perhaps, the whole future of our relations with China, and, at all events, as well worthy the attention of wise men as any other widespread human delusion."

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

The Paris *Moniteur* says that the conclusion of the Commercial Treaty with Belgium, and the satisfactory progress of the negotiations with the Zollverein, confirm the hope that the French free trade movement will extend to all Europe.

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* says, the Emperor Napoleon is disappointed at the turn which events have taken in Poland. The cause of the Poles is popular in France, and the Emperor had hoped to gain credit for promoting their emancipation.

The Emperor on Thursday reviewed the 2nd division of the first corps d'armée. Eight thousand troops were on the ground.

The *Pays* has given currency to the absurd rumour that it is the intention of England to occupy a point of territory between Upper Syria and Egypt.

Lord Elgin had an interview with the Emperor Napoleon on Wednesday. It is reported that his lordship is likely to succeed Lord Cowley as British Ambassador at Paris.

A new Paris paper, *La France Libérale*, will appear early in May. Its politics will be Liberal Conservative, and it is intended specially to oppose the *Journal des Débats*. Its staff will comprise M. Guizot, Count d'Haussonville, Prince Albert de Broglie, and M. Prevost Paradol.

The *Moniteur* publishes a report from M. de Presigny, Minister of the Interior, to the Emperor, which is followed by an Imperial decree, ordering an administrative decentralisation. Henceforth the prefects and subprefects are to decide on certain departmental and communal affairs, and on various other subjects which until now were decided by the different ministers.

The *Opinion Nationale* publishes an address to the French people from Mr. Joseph Pease and Mr. Henry Richard, the one President of the Peace Society, the other Secretary, recommending France and England to the strictest alliance as the surest guarantee of the triumph of civilisation. The *Opinion Nationale*, while approving generally the sentiments expressed in the address, observes:—

We also desire the English alliance, but we desire an alliance active, efficacious, and which will be something different from a cowardly neutrality between justice and equity, between liberty and oppression. With this single reservation, we fully associate ourselves to the sentiments of the honourable persons who have signed the address.

The *Moniteur*, in reference to the address of the Peace Society of London, says:—"This appeal to the French people, expressing the desire to see an alliance and friendship maintained between the two nations, cannot fail to meet with general sympathy in France."

Paris has just been startled by the publication of a pamphlet written by the Duke d'Aumale. It is entitled, "A Letter on the History of France," and consists of a fierce philippic upon the Empire and the Emperor, instigated by Prince Napoleon's recent assault upon the Orleans family. The police have made a seizure, but not before nearly the whole edition had found its way into the possession of the public.

ITALY.

THE ROMAN QUESTION.

In the Senate, on the 9th, Signor Vacca put the interpellation in reference to Rome, of which he had previously given notice.

Count Cavour, in his reply, said:—"In the Roman question the Italian government can only employ moral means, and cannot act against Rome as a conqueror." Count Cavour admitted that the solution of the Neapolitan question was bound up with the Roman question, and that it was necessary for the tranquillity of the southern provinces that the antagonism between the State and the Church should cease shortly. "The government," he continued, "will energetically suppress any disorders at Naples, but the most efficacious means to that end would

be the solution of the Roman question. The hopes which I recently expressed have not diminished." Count Cavour then maintained that the Italians were not only liberal, but as much Catholics as the French and the Belgians.

The Chamber then almost unanimously adopted the following order of the day proposed by Signor Matteucci:—

The Chamber, having confidence in the government, and acknowledging the necessity for the union of Rome to Italy, in accomplishing which, however, the grandeur and independence of the Church and the Pope will be guaranteed, passes to the order of the day.

In the same sitting Count Cavour, in reply to an interpellation, gave a formal denial to the rumours of an intended cession of the island of Sardinia to France.

GARIBALDI, THE KING, AND THE CHAMBERS.

In the Chamber of Deputies, on the 9th, Signor Brofferio put an interpellation relative to the inquiry which had been instituted at Genoa, at the office of the Garibaldian committee.

Signor Minghetti replied, declaring that an investigation had taken place on account of the indications of an illegal enlistment, which the government absolutely wished to prevent.

Signor Brofferio then proposed an order of the day, which was rejected by the Chamber.

Baron Ricasoli (late Dictator of Tuscany), made a speech which excited much sensation. After requesting the President of the Council to fix a day for full and ample explanations of the past and future conduct of the government in reference to the army of Southern Italy, he added that he hoped General Garibaldi himself would be present on the occasion, and express face to face with the representatives of the nation his opinions of the government. Baron Ricasoli then went on to say:—

When General Garibaldi went, at the call of the Tuscan Government, to command the Tuscan army, we shook hands and promised each other to do what in us lay for the nation. The nation at that time was but an aspiration of Italian hearts, and against this aspiration there was a tremendous threat of intervention. There was also a promise that this intervention should not be carried into effect, but that promise did not reassure men's minds. It was the month of July, a few days after the peace of Villafranca; at the announcement of that event all hearts trembled with agitation. General Garibaldi and I promised each other to do our duty thoroughly. I know that I have done mine—(applause)—the general has done his. (Applause.) Hence it is impossible that one who has laboured to make the nation, now that the nation sits in this assembly, now that all our efforts are tending successfully to make all Italians free citizens, can speak disrespectful words of the parliament and the King. And here let me depart for a moment from the formality of constitutional language in speaking of the King, that king who is beloved by all Italians—(applause)—who has been sent by Providence to enable the Italians to throw off a foreign yoke, without whom all their valour would have been of no avail—(loud applause)—that king who is the sole liberator of the nation—(Hear, hear)—who has kept his word at the risk of his crown and life, who will fulfil the last act that remains to do for complete freedom of this whole nation. That king cannot have been ill spoken of by Garibaldi, for Garibaldi's heart is like mine, and what I could not do, I cannot believe he would do. Since all the Italians have laboured at this work of liberation, there is no question of a first or a last citizen. (Loud applause.) Whoever has had the good fortune to do his duty in the most generous way has still another and greater duty to do—to thank God who has granted him the precious privilege, granted to few citizens, of being able to say, "I have saved my country—I have generously fulfilled my duty." Accordingly, if on summing up all the magnanimous deeds that the Italians have done in these last two years, there are only a few citizens who have been enabled to fulfil those greater, more solemn duties—those duties that have most directly contributed to the final result of the nation, far be it from those who have been so privileged to claim to be superior to the laws, far be it from them to calculate their services; on the contrary, they ought, as I have said, to thank God that they have been able to perform noble and generous deeds, and to say, "If my country calls me, she shall always have an obedient son," and thus to be first to set others an example of obeying the laws. (Applause.) This is the duty of every citizen who in the short course of his life has had the precious privilege of doing magnanimous deeds. I know that General Garibaldi feels this; I do not fear that I am deceived in him; he could not use a language that I could not use myself. He has not uttered those words. General Garibaldi will come into this hall, will be proud to take his seat by our side—(A voice on the left, "No")—and we shall be glad to see him here in this chamber, since we can all say, "We have contributed to the happiness and well-being of our country."

The baron's speech was received with great cheering both from the members of the Chamber and from the galleries. "Baron Ricasoli (says the *Times* correspondent) who was personally not known to many out of Tuscany, has at once taken the most commanding position in the country. He said what every man in the house was longing to say, but what no man without Ricasoli's precedents and character would have been either emboldened or entitled to say."

On the 13th, the President read a letter from Garibaldi, in which the latter declared that, in his reply to the deputation from the workmen's associations of Milan, he had no intention of offending either the King or the Parliament; also, that his devotion to the King was too well known, and that, consequently, his conscience would not allow him to descend to justify himself against the charge of offending his Majesty. In the same letter he said also that his acts in favour of the country were also too notorious to allow it to be supposed that he wished to insult it. He added that the manner in which the Southern army had been treated filled his soul with disdain, and concluded by proposing a project of law for a vast national armament.

No sign either of approbation or disapprobation marked the reading of this letter.

The official *Gazette* of Turin publishes a decree ordering the formation of a volunteer corps, to comprise three divisions, in which the Garibaldian officers will hold rank.

The *Italia* announces that the King had signed the decree relative to the Southern army, and states that the measures which have been ordered will satisfy the demands of the volunteers. The *Italia* adds that the differences between the majority of the Chamber and Garibaldi on that question, have been arranged.

Garibaldi has written to the electors of the First College of Naples to say that he definitely accepts the mandate of deputy which they had conferred on him.

General Fanti has presented to the Chamber of Deputies a project of law for levying 18,000 men in the Neapolitan provinces.

PUBLIC WORKS.

On the 11th, the Minister of Public Works, replying to an interpellation, declared that the progress of the works of the Roman Railways left nothing to be desired. "The Government," he said, "does not approve the project by which the nominal value of each share would be reduced to 400*l*." The minister stated that the sum of 83,000,000*l*. was still required to carry on the works. He expressed hopes that that 13,000,000*l*. would be obtained by the liquidation of M. Mirès' estate, and considered that by demanding the full amount of 500*l*. per share, and by issuing the obligations which had not been taken up, all future emergencies would be provided for.

M. Pastoggi, the Minister of Finance at Turin, has presented to the Italian Parliament an abstract of the financial situation of Piedmont for each year, from 1853 to 1859, likewise for 1860, including Lombardy, Emilia, and Tuscany. There will be a deficit of 180 millions (11,200,000*l*.), which must be provided for by a loan.

THE TWO SICILIES.

The authorities of Sinigaglia have brought the Bishop before the tribunals for having given instructions to the confessors to undermine the authority of King Victor Emmanuel.

The garrison of Naples has been reinforced by 10,000 men. A searching inquiry relative to the late reactionary attempt is being prosecuted. Several individuals, bearers of important papers, have been arrested. The conspiracy was well organised. The important manifestation at Naples in favour of Prince Murat has had no result. Bourbonist uniforms and important papers have been seized in the Monastery of Santa Maria Nuova.

Reactionary attempts have been suppressed at Volturara, Sorbo, Salas, Avigliano, Faviano, Racale, and Allista. Order has been re-established at Castiglione and in the Abruzzi. The supplementary elections have been favourable to the Government.

Naples is perfectly tranquil.

Some Hungarian officers, who recently deserted from Mantua, have just arrived at Turin.

All over Lombardy Austrian agents are busy buying up the *congés* of Garibaldians, the price given being about 300*l*. (about 12*l*.) for each of them. Once a sufficient number of these *congés* bought up, and others manufactured, a corresponding number of men can be easily put in red shirts and be made to attack. Thus Austria will have the right to retaliate; the *congés* will be held up to the world, the principle of non-intervention invoked, and an Austrian army may re-enter Italy.

The Marquis de Montezemolo having tendered his resignation, as Lieutenant-Governor of Sicily, has been replaced by Signor Dallarovera.

THE PAPAL STATES.

A letter written by the Prelate Liverani against the temporal power of the Pope, and printed at Turin, is circulating here. Cardinal Antonelli is said to be preparing a reply.

The *Times* correspondent at Rome, writing on the 6th, gives the following explanation of the Pope's recent illness:—

At the Benediction on Sunday last his Holiness took cold, in consequence of a sudden gust of wind and rain when he was at the window; and on Monday, although unwell, he insisted upon getting up and being present at the dinner he gave to the King of Naples at the Quirinal; and on Tuesday, when at mass in the Sixtine Chapel, he suddenly swooned away. The attendant cardinals observed his head fall on one side as he sat in his chair, and his eyes close, and he remained thus for some minutes without any one daring to disturb him, the persons present, probably, being in doubt whether it was a sleep or a fainting fit. At last a cardinal hurried upstairs to Antonelli, who immediately came down and had the Pope put into a sedan-chair for conveyance to his apartment. The motion of the chair probably reminded Pius of the chairing in St. Peter's to which he has to submit on some of the great festivals of the year, for he began, while still unconscious, to make the motion of benediction with his fingers, greatly to the admiration of the cardinals. A door through which he had to pass proving too narrow for the sedan, he had to be taken out and carried. The mass continued, changed only from a pontifical to a cardinal's mass by the departure of the Swiss and of the Noble Guards in attendance. This was about half-an-hour after noon. Medical assistance was prompt and the Pope was soon better, and, although feverish, able to receive some of the cardinals. On Wednesday the reports of his health were favourable, but on Thursday, after mass, he was worse again and had to go to bed. Since then he has again improved, and this morning's accounts are to the effect that he is nearly well, barring a slight tendency to erysipelas in one leg.

AUSTRIA.
THE DIETS.

In Wednesday's sitting of the Austrian Diet, Superintendent Franz (a Protestant member) proposed, and the Diet unanimously passed, a vote of thanks to the Emperor and the ministry for the new law relative to the Protestants.

The Bohemian Diet has adopted a resolution praying for a general amnesty, and has sent a deputation to the Emperor to request his Majesty to come to Prague for the purpose of being crowned King of Bohemia. The majority of the Upper House desire the re-establishment of the Hungarian laws which were in existence before 1848. The Liberal part of the country demand the maintenance of the laws adopted in 1848 by the Hungarian Diet. The sittings of the Lower House have been adjourned for eight days.

The Diet of Istria has refused to send deputies to the Council of the Empire. Fears are entertained that that Diet will be dissolved.

The Croatian Diet has been opened. The Ban was honoured with a popular ovation on the occasion.

A telegram from Pesth of the 15th, says:—"A conference of magnates was held to-day for the purpose of taking into consideration a letter addressed by General Benedek, the commander of the troops in Hungary, to the President of the Upper House. A resolution was adopted, stigmatising the letter as an insult to the magnates, and ordering the publication of a reply thereto. The wording of the reply was entrusted to a committee, amongst the members of which is Count Teleki."

The *Oesterreichische Zeitung* denies, in the most positive terms, the news published by some of the Vienna papers, that the Government intends to grant an independent ministry to Hungary, and that it no longer requires the Hungarians to send deputies to the Council of the Empire.

The *Vienna Gazette* publishes the imperial patent, already mentioned, which places Protestants on the same footing as the members of all other communions with respect to civil and political immunities. The least satisfactory part of this act is the perpetual intervention of the Emperor, who names the members of the superior ecclesiastical council, confirms the election of the pastors, and sanctions the regulations of the general synod. The contributions hitherto paid, in money or in kind, to Catholic priests and schoolmasters, are altogether suppressed.

The Turin correspondent of the *Brussels Independent* states that General Klapka has arrived in Turin, and has had many interviews already with Garibaldi, as well as with Count Cavour.

Klapka proclaims openly his conviction, that so long as the Austrian Government shall show itself conciliatory towards Hungary, so long as the Diet at Pesth is not dissolved, nor a state of siege proclaimed, it would be a grave error to plunge Hungary into a desperate struggle by a premature effort. If Hungary can come to terms with Austria upon the basis of the laws of 1848, the Hungarian emigres will abstain from any act which might compromise the future of their country. Garibaldi entirely approves of those views, and it is wholly untrue to assert that he has anything to do with the troubles in Montenegro and the insurrection in Bosnia. Neither he nor any of his lieutenants has lent any aid to these attempts—up to the present of scarcely any serious importance.

DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

The final sitting of the Holstein Diet took place at Itzehoe on the 11th. The President, in his speech, showed that the character of the Danish proposals was such as not to be acceptable to the Estates.

The Royal Commissioner refused to recognise the objections offered by the Estates against the Provision, and expressed his regret at the result of the discussion.

The commanders of the twenty-two Danish battalions recently formed have been appointed. Two battalions were to proceed to Schleswig.

POLAND.

The following despatches have been published:—

THORN, April 11.—On Tuesday night last the Russian troops were encamped in the squares of Warsaw. The public buildings were also occupied by the military. The shops, workshops, and offices were closed. Great crowds of people were assembled in the streets, but it was forbidden them to stand still. The national costume and mourning are no longer seen. No newspapers are published. Among the persons killed and wounded in the recent disturbances were several women and children. At present all is quiet.

BRZESLAU, April 12.—A proclamation of Prince Gortchakoff has been published to-day at Warsaw, in which he accuses the inhabitants of having thrown stones at the troops, and thereby caused the death of two soldiers, and wounded ten others.

THORN, April 12.—The number of persons who fell at Warsaw amounts to at least thirty. There were several hundred wounded. The corpses of the victims were carried to the citadel, and were buried within the fortifications. The individuals who have been arrested are to pass their term of imprisonment within the kingdom. Last night numerous arrests were made. The Municipality has been dissolved.

THORN, April 13.—Three generals have arrived at Warsaw from St. Petersburg, to assist the Governor Prince Gortchakoff. The Council of Municipality of Warsaw has not been dissolved, as was stated, but its functions have been restricted. Troops are continually arriving at Warsaw. General Chruleff has proceeded with troops to Lublin. It is said that serious agitation prevails in that city.

THORN, April 14.—Arrests continue to be made at Warsaw. Two members of the former delegation of

citizens have also been arrested. It is said that Count Zamoycki has been ordered to leave Warsaw. The Governor has refused to grant an audience to citizens of high standing. The energetic attitude assumed by Prince Gortchakoff is attributed to the influence of General Chruleff.

TURKEY.

Sir Henry Bulwer's financial scheme will probably be substantially adopted. It has been modified by the introduction of the alternative of a forced loan for three or five millions sterling, in the event of the money for the deposit against the issue of the new paper money not being immediately realisable on the Crown lands.

A gloomy impression prevails in the capital, and a financial crisis appears imminent. The value of a gold Medjidie has already risen to 166. During the Crimean war it did not exceed 120. Money is scarce, and commerce is almost at a stand-still. The price of food is rapidly rising, that of meat is more than doubled.

The conflict in the Herzegovina still continues. Several places have proclaimed the Prince of Montenegro.

A telegram from Belgrade (Servia), of the 11th, says:—"Yesterday, ninety-one Bulgarian families, numbering 568 persons, emigrated to Servia with numerous flocks. The Turks stopped their passage, and inflicted punishment upon 160 of them. The agitation is increasing on the frontiers."

The *Paris Patrie* says, that the news of the disembarkation of Italian volunteers at Spizza (Albania) has been confirmed. The number of these volunteers who have taken refuge in the mountains of Dalmatia is about 500.

AMERICA.

The royal mail steamship Canada, Captain Anderson, from Boston on the 3rd and Halifax on the 4th inst., arrived at Queenstown on Monday.

President Lincoln had become severely indisposed from constant exertion.

The Government forts at Key West and Tortugas had been reinforced.

The election of members to Congress in Connecticut will probably result in favour of the Republican party.

It was stated that troops, provisions, and ammunition were constantly reaching the Southern army.

The Morrill tariff came into operation on the 1st April, and created trouble, confusion, and annoyance.

The New York Banks' returns show an increase in specie of nearly two million dollars.

Judge McLean, of the Supreme Court, was dead.

Fort Sumter was on the point of being evacuated. Two officers had arrived from Charleston, and were to hold an interview on the 4th with the Ministers at Washington.

The Secretary of the Treasury refused to receive any bids for the new loan under 94.

Extraordinary activity prevailed in the navy yards. It was said that Fort Pickens will be reinforced at all hazards.

The Europa has brought over the Honourable Dudley Mann, Commissioner to Europe from the Southern States.

Mr. Schutz had been confirmed by the Senate at Washington as Minister to Spain. Mr. Clay, who declined the appointment, goes as Minister to Russia.

The Texas Legislature had approved the act of the Convention deposing Governor Houston.

In the United States Senate on the 27th, a message was received from the President, declining to communicate the despatches received from Major Anderson, the commander at Fort Sumter, as their publication would at this time be inexpedient. A long debate then ensued upon the question of taking up Senator Breckenridge's resolution, advising the withdrawal of the Federal troops from the seceded States. Upon taking the question, the vote stood nineteen to ten. As there was not a quorum, the subject was dropped, and the Senate went into executive session, and in the course of a couple of hours confirmed a large number of appointments to foreign consulates, &c.

The discussion on the proposal made by Great Britain, to submit the San Juan dispute to arbitration, appears to have been prematurely cut short by the adjournment of the Senate. Mr. Nesmith opposed the scheme, and Mr. Sumner, the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, who adopted a report in its favour, was to have replied, but the delivery of his speech must now be postponed till the next session.

SAN DOMINGO.

SPANISH AGGRESSION.

Havanna dates are to the 25th March. There was much excitement at Havanna on the subject of the annexation of San Domingo to Spain. It seems that a system of Spanish emigration has been going on at that Island, the emigrants being instructed when the proper time arrived, to hoist the Spanish flag and invoke the aid of Spain. This was done on the 16th, much to the astonishment of the blacks and natives there. When the news reached Havanna the frigate Blanca was fully armed, and, with a large number of regular troops on board, was despatched to San Domingo, sailing on the 23rd. Two screw frigates were soon to follow, with 5,000 regulars. A large naval and military force is said to be on its way from Spain to Cuba. It is stated that Hayti will soon share the same fate as that of San Domingo, with the consent of France.

The Haytian papers publish a proclamation against

Spanish aggression, stating that the only way to save the country is by revolution.

INDIA.

By the arrival of the Overland Mail we have papers from Calcutta to March 8. Of the famine the *Englishman* says:—"In the North-west week follows week, and still little or no change takes place in the scene where famine is, as yet, the most prominent feature. Rain has not fallen, and irrigation is now becoming a matter of much and serious interest. Experiments have been suggested, and the subject is now occupying the attention of some of the most intelligent engineers in India."

The prospects of the indigo districts are described as being very bad. The disposition of the ryots to refuse payment of their rent is said to have assumed "a formidable aspect."

A commission has been appointed in Calcutta to report on the arrangements necessary for carrying out the amalgamation of the armies. The work will occupy six months.

On the 6th ult. Lord Canning, as Chancellor of the Calcutta University, conferred the degree of bachelor of arts and bachelor of law on a number of young men, including one Christian, several Hindoos, and a few Mohammedans. The ceremony took place in the Town Hall, before a large audience representing all classes.

CHINA.

The expedition up the Yang-tee left Woosung on the 12th of February. Her Majesty's ships composing it were the *Centaur*, *Coromandel*, *Cooper*, *Atalanta*, *Waterman*, *Banterer*, *Bouncer*, and *Havock*. By the last accounts from the vessels some progress had been made, but it was slow, owing to the difficulties in the navigation. The *Centaur* had grounded and the *Chesapeake* was ordered to her assistance. A deputation from the Chamber of Commerce at Shanghai, at the invitation of Admiral Sir James Hope, accompanied the expedition, and we may expect shortly a report on the capabilities of the river and the places visited for commerce. It is uncertain when Admiral Sir James Hope will get back to Shanghai, but his return was expected by about the end of the month. The small party of explorers who purposed making their way to India through Thibet left with the expedition, and taking advantage of it as far as the vessels went, would afterwards proceed on their journey.

From Tien-tsin the dates are to the 29th of January. All was quiet there. As soon as the navigation was open it was expected a good trade would be resumed. Mr. Wade, the Chinese Secretary, had gone up to Peking, and was well received. The troops at Canton and Tien-tsin will not be removed, at all events at present.

Sankolinsin has been defeated by the Shantung insurgents.

The *London and China Telegraph* says:—"The *Friend of China* makes the following startling announcement:—"A report is in circulation among the Chinese that on the 7th day of the 12th moon—which would be the 17th day of January, or thirty days ago—"Pekin fell under the sway of the rebels." To this we have to add, that while our information from native sources is indefinite as to the period and the grand catastrophe, there is much painful anticipation on the part of those in authority, and consequently among those whose hopes and fortunes run with the Manchou dynasty."

COCHIN CHINA.

Advices from Saigon state that the French and Spanish captured five forts on the 24th February, after an obstinate resistance by the Anamese. Col. Teraud was killed. The general and five officers were wounded, and 300 rank and file killed and wounded. The Spanish lost five killed and thirty-five wounded; a Spanish Colonel was also wounded. The day after the steamer left a new expedition was to be organised to follow up the success, and it was hoped that part of the country where large quantities of grain were stored would be secured; meanwhile rice had advanced to 1 dol. 65c.

JAPAN.

Dates from Kanagawa are to the 4th inst., and the accounts confirm the unsatisfactory state of matters that exist in Japan. In consequence of the assassination of Mr. Heusken, Secretary to the American Minister, and the insecurity that was considered to exist to life and property, Mr. Alcock, together with the representatives of France and the Netherlands, had deemed it advisable to retire from Jeddo, and had gone to Yokohama. The British Consulate is also removed from Kanagawa to Yokohama.

A circular addressed to Mr. Alcock to the Consuls, and also a communication of his to the Japanese Government, explain the reason for the course he has adopted, and call upon the latter to guarantee redress for past grievances, and security for the future. Mr. Alcock does not intend the trade should be interfered with while negotiations are going on for the better maintenance of treaty rights.

NEW ZEALAND.

Intelligence from New Zealand is to the 11th Feb. The Maories boldly attacked our troops on the 23rd of January and 10th of February, but were defeated. The 57th regiment had arrived from Bombay.

The *Times* Melbourne correspondent gives details of the battle of Huirangi, which in many of its details reads like the story of a miniature Inkerman. At dawn of day on the 23rd of January four sentries on duty in one of the redoubts before Wirimu King's

stronghold perceived a body of natives creeping towards them through the fern. Before the guard could be turned out they were scaling the embankments, "cutting notches for their toes on the slope with their tomahawks," and, when foiled in their attempt at a surprise, "mounting on each other's shoulders, with the evident intention boldly to oppose the tomahawk to the bayonet," and hacking the gabions to pieces with the same weapon. It is true that they met with a decisive repulse, but not till after an obstinate fight, and till the garrisons of the other redoubts had been moved up to the support of their comrades. They are admitted to have shown judgment as well as courage in this their first attack on one of our fortifications, and, though they left thirty-six dead and five prisoners on the field, they were in a position to risk a second engagement on the 10th of February, the issue of which appears to have been favourable to our troops, inasmuch as "seventeen dead rebels were found in the fern the following day." Everything, however, indicates an intention on the part of the Ngatiwa tribe, supported by a large section of the Waitato, to prolong the contest indefinitely, and the General was preparing to enter on a regular campaign with all the appliances of scientific warfare.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Yellow fever is reported to be raging at Rio Janeiro.

Three hundred Hungarians have left Constantinople for Italy.

Several Prussian nobles have issued a circular to the aristocracy of that country, proposing that a present shall be made to King Francis II.

In Java immense damage and loss of life have been caused by floods. The extent of the destruction and distress is incredible.

PRINCE ALFRED AND THE GREEKS.—The newspapers of Greece, seconded by the *British Star* (a Greek journal printed in London), are anxious to have Prince Alfred proclaimed heir presumptive to the throne of that country, in succession to King Otto.

SIR JAMES BROOKE AT SARAWAK.—The *Rainbow* arrived at the town of Kuching from this on the 11th of February, with Sir James Brooke, etc., on board. The rajah was most affectionately welcomed back by his people, and on the night of his arrival the town was illuminated by all classes, Europeans, Chinese, and Malays. In honour of the event the courts were closed and a week's holiday was proclaimed. Chiefs from all quarters continued to arrive daily up to the time of the steamer's departure to pay their respects to the rajah.—From the *Singapore Free Press* of March 8.

PRINCE ALFRED IN THE WEST INDIES.—The *Atrato* brings us intelligence of Prince Alfred's movements in the West Indies:—His Royal Highness, after leaving St. Lucia, visited Martinique, Dominica, Guadeloupe, &c., at all of which places his reception was most enthusiastic and gratifying. The Prince left St. Kitt's on the 22nd ult. for Tortola, where he arrived on the 24th, and left again on the morning of the 25th, reaching St. Thomas the same afternoon, receiving a right royal welcome everywhere. On the 27th the St. George and the Barracouta left for St. Croix. At Jamaica the arrival of the Prince was looked for with great anxiety.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

MARYLEBONE.—There is no lack of candidates desirous of succeeding Mr. Edwin James, but they have short time to agitate the constituency, as the nomination takes place this day. Amongst those who have issued addresses are Mr. Harvey Lewis, Chairman of the Universal Marine Life Assurance Company, and a director of the National Bank, who contested Hull at the last general election in the Liberal interest. Mr. Wingrove Cooke, a barrister, formerly the *Times* commissioner in China, Mr. Harper Twelvrees, of Bromley, and Mr. Marshman. The latter is supported by Sir John Lawrence, Sir Morton Peto, Bart., and other influential gentlemen. After some hesitation the Conservatives have brought out Ald. Sir R. W. Carden, who pledges himself to go to the poll. All these candidates but one go for the abolition of Church-rates. Sir R. Carden talks only of "equitable settlement." On Monday Mr. Harvey Lewis addressed several influential meetings of the electors, at all of which he met with a very cordial reception. Mr. Marshman, who was introduced by Mr. Gregson, M.P., for the first time addressed a public meeting of the constituency, and entered into an explanation of his political opinions. In the evening he held two other meetings, at one of which Sir John Lawrence presided. Mr. Harper Twelvrees addressed two meetings, and Mr. Wingrove Cooke was also actively employed.

TYNEMOUTH.—Mr. Hugh Taylor, on account of his brother's death, has issued an address resigning the representation of the borough of Tynemouth. Mr. Nathaniel Lambert, a coal owner and Liberal, will come forward, but the Liberal electors have determined that without a candidate pledges himself to at least a *Gl.* franchise and the abolition of Church-rates, they will not support him. Mr. Arthur Otway is also spoken of, and it is said that Sir Stuart A. Donaldson was also to take the field. The *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* says that the Tories are embarrassed by the recommendation of one of their papers to fight the Church-rate question at this election.

They are asked to bring out a candidate who will go the entire "platform" for Church-rates and no sur-

render. But if they do bring an "out-and-out" pro-Church-rate candidate before the electors of North Shields, they know they have as much chance of returning him as of bringing back the days of Liverpool and Castlereagh and Catholic disabilities.

It is rumoured that Mr. Richard Hodgson, of Carham, will be brought out by the Tories.

THE AMERICAN CENSUS.

The following official table, just issued from the Census Department at Washington, shows the population of the United States and Territories, according to the Seventh Census (1850), and the Eighth Census (1860), respectively:—

Census of 1850.			
States.	Free.	Slave.	Total.
Alabama	428,779	342,844	771,623
Arkansas	162,797	47,100	209,897
California	92,597	—	92,597
Connecticut	370,792	—	370,792
Delaware	89,242	3,290	91,532
Florida	48,135	39,310	87,445
Georgia	524,508	381,681	906,185
Illinois	851,470	—	851,470
Indiana	988,416	—	988,416
Iowa	192,214	—	192,214
Kansas	—	—	—
Kentucky	771,424	210,981	982,405
Louisiana	272,953	244,809	517,762
Maine	583,169	—	583,169
Maryland	492,676	90,386	583,062
Massachusetts	994,514	—	994,514
Mississippi	296,648	309,878	606,526
Missouri	504,622	87,442	592,064
Michigan	397,654	—	397,654
Minnesota	6,077	—	6,077
New Hampshire	317,976	—	317,976
New Jersey	489,319	236	489,555
New York	3,097,394	—	3,097,394
North Carolina	580,491	288,548	869,039
Ohio	1,980,329	—	1,980,329
Oregon	13,294	—	13,294
Pennsylvania	2,311,786	—	2,311,786
Rhode Island	147,645	—	147,645
South Carolina	283,523	384,984	668,507
Tennessee	763,258	239,459	1,002,717
Texas	154,431	58,161	212,592
Virginia	949,133	472,528	1,421,661
Vermont	314,120	—	314,120
Wisconsin	305,391	—	305,391
Territories.	19,866,662	3,200,600	23,067,262
Colorado	—	—	—
Dakota	—	—	—
Nebraska	—	—	—
Nevada	—	—	—
New Mexico	61,547	—	61,547
Utah	11,354	26	11,380
Washington	—	—	—
District of Columbia	48,000	3,687	51,687
Total.	19,987,563	3,204,313	23,191,876

Census of 1860.			
States.	Free.	Slave.	Total.
Alabama	529,164	435,132	964,296
Arkansas	324,323	111,104	435,427
California	380,015	—	380,015
Connecticut	460,151	—	460,151
Delaware	110,420	1,798	112,218
Florida	78,686	61,753	140,439
Georgia	595,097	402,230	1,007,327
Illinois	1,771,753	—	1,771,753
Indiana	1,350,479	—	1,350,479
Iowa	674,948	—	674,948
Kansas	107,110	—	107,110
Kentucky	930,223	225,490	1,155,713
Louisiana	376,913	332,520	709,433
Maine	628,276	—	628,276
Maryland	599,846	87,188	687,034
Massachusetts	1,231,065	—	1,231,065
Mississippi	354,699	436,626	791,325
Missouri	1,058,352	114,965	1,173,317
Michigan	749,112	—	749,112
Minnesota	162,022	—	162,022
New Hampshire	326,072	—	326,072
New Jersey	672,031	—	672,031
New York	3,887,542	—	3,887,542
North Carolina	661,686	331,081	992,767
Ohio	2,339,559	—	2,339,559
Oregon	52,464	—	52,464
Pennsylvania	2,906,370	—	2,906,370
Rhode Island	174,621	—	174,621
South Carolina	301,271	402,541	703,812
Tennessee	834,063	275,784	1,109,847
Texas	420,651	180,388	601,039
Virginia	1,405,196	490,887	1,896,083
Vermont	315,116	—	315,116
Wisconsin	775,873	—	775,873
Territories.	27,185,109	3,949,557	31,134,666
Colorado	34,197	—	34,197
Dakota	4,830	—	4,830
Nebraska	28,835	10	28,845
Nevada	6,587	—	6,587
New Mexico	93,517	24	93,541
Utah	40,266	29	40,295
Washington	11,587	—	11,587
District of Columbia	71,895	3,181	75,076
Total.	27,447,090	3,952,801	31,429,891

MONEY ORDERS.—In the last twenty years the post-offices of the United Kingdom have paid 92,008,305 money orders; the sum thus paid was 177,779,006*l.* The losses by irrecoverable arrears due from postmasters and others have been but 5,392*l.* which has been taken from the proceeds of unclaimed money orders.

THE KINGDOM OF ITALY.

The correspondence relating to the recognition of Victor Emmanuel as King of Italy has been published. On the 19th of March, a notification to the British Government of the assumption of the title "King of Italy" by Victor Emmanuel was made by the Sardinian Ambassador at this Court. The recognition of the King of Italy took place on the 30th of the same month, when Lord John Russell wrote to the Marquis d'Azeglio:—

Having laid your communication before her Majesty the Queen, I am commanded to state to you that her Majesty, acting on the principle of respecting the independence of the nations of Europe, will receive you as the Envoy of Victor Emmanuel II., King of Italy.

The new King of Italy has now been recognised by Switzerland, England, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, Portugal, and the United States.

THE STRIKE.

A very important step has been taken towards the settlement of the disputes in the metropolitan building trade. The new system of the Saturday half-holiday was commenced at Messrs. Lucas's on Saturday, and there is every reason to believe that the example thus set by the men in the employ of that firm will be very generally followed by the workmen in the building trades. Under the new arrangement the men work ten hours for five days, and six and a-half hours on Saturday, leaving work at one o'clock; and for this amount of work they are paid 8*s.*, or precisely the same as they have hitherto received for working until half-past four on Saturday. They have thus obtained a diminution of the total hours of labour in the week equal to about one-half of that which they claimed under the nine hours' system. Instead of leaving work an hour earlier in each day, the men are paid off at one o'clock on Saturday, and have the rest of the day to themselves. The term of labour for each of the other five days of the week will still be ten hours. The resolution to adopt this compromise was agreed to almost unanimously at a meeting of the masons held on Friday. Among the men employed by Messrs. Lucas and Co., Messrs. Kelk, and Sir S. Morton Peto, resolutions have been passed by considerable majorities, accepting the Saturday half-holiday, and the system of payment by the hour. The number of men in the employ of Messrs. Lucas is within twenty-five of their full complement of hands. At one o'clock the pay books of Messrs. Lucas were opened, and in twenty minutes of the whole of the men were paid. When this operation was completed, the men, 300 or 400 in number, gave three hearty cheers for Messrs. Lucas. As they were leaving the yard, Mr. Lucas, addressing the men, said that he hoped they would make good use of their holiday, and profit by the new arrangement which had been made. Two or three hundred of the society's men and their pickets, who were congregated opposite the wharf in the Belvidere-road, commenced hooting and yelling as the men left work. Some policemen were stationed on the spot, but no occasion arose for their interference.

Between forty and fifty workmen belonging to the different building trades of Paris arrived in London on Saturday last *via* Dover, having defrayed their own expenses of transit, in the full persuasion that they would be readily engaged by the master builders to replace the operatives who had withdrawn from their employment. The new arrivals were of course informed that their services would probably be dispensed with on account of the anticipated speedy termination of the existing dispute between the masters and workmen. They stated that a considerable number of their fellow-countrymen were fully prepared to leave France with the same view.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Court still remains in retirement at Osborne. On Sunday her Majesty and the Royal family attended Divine service, which was performed by the Rev. George Prothero in the house at Osborne.

The birthday of the young Princess Beatrice was announced at Windsor on Sunday morning by short peals from the bells of the Chapel Royal of St. George and St. John's Church.

Cabinet Councils were held on Friday and Saturday.

Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., has resigned the recordership of Brighton. The salary is 200*l.* per annum.

The will of the Duchess of Kent has been proved. The personality was sworn under 30,000*l.* Both real and personal property is left solely to her Majesty, and the Prince Consort is sole executor. The will is dated March 20th, 1860.

The Earl of Elgin landed at Dover on Thursday. He was received by a salute of cannon, a crowd, and a deputation from the civic authorities, who presented an address, a performance in which, if practice really does make perfect, they ought to be more proficient than any other corporation in Great Britain. Lord Elgin made a graceful and appropriate reply, in the course of which he said:—

After the great achievement of an advance on Peking—an achievement which will occupy, I venture to say, a conspicuous place in the history of the world—after that achievement was accomplished, it became the duty and office of diplomacy to endeavour to turn to good account the advantages it was calculated to ensure;—in the first place, to punish with necessary severity deeds of bad faith and cruelty, but, above all, to remember that we did not go there for the purpose of making conquests, but in order to establish relations of amity and

mutual benefit between our own country and the most populous nation on the earth—a nation containing 400,000,000 souls, who, no doubt, still labour under the disadvantages and exhibit the defects which ignorance of the world and isolation engender both in individuals and society, but who, nevertheless, are a people eminently industrious, peaceable, intelligent, and commercial, and who are, therefore, calculated, when the shackles and trammels which impede the true exercise of their natural energies shall have been shaken off, to contribute largely both as producers and consumers to the sum of human prosperity and mutual well-being. (Cheers.)

Laws and Police.

FRAUD ON THE TRACT SOCIETY.—Holland, the letter-carrier who stole the letter containing a remittance of 690*l.* from Edinburgh, to the Religious Tract Society, has been tried at the Central Criminal Court, found guilty, and sentenced to six years' penal servitude.

FORGED BANK NOTES.—George Cohen, a clothier, was tried the same day. His offence was passing "flash notes," as if they were real notes. At the police-court one Moss said Cohen gave 2*l.* 10*s.* or 1*l.* 10*s.* for 5*l.* notes, as the case might be. To give a colour of innocence to the transaction, it was pretended that the notes were taken, *bona fide*, from Scotch sailors. But at the Central Criminal Court Moss swore that he had been induced to make this statement by Cohen, and that it was not true. Several forged notes were found in Cohen's house. Sentence, ten years' penal servitude.

DISEASED MEAT.—Morgan Blandford, a butcher, residing near Wimborne, in Dorset, has been committed for trial by the Guildhall magistrates, for selling diseased meat for sale to a Newgate Market salesman. He sent up by rail the carcass of a cow which had died of disease. The case was fully proved. He has been tried at the Central Criminal Court, and found guilty.

OMNIBUS IMPOSITIONS are on the increase. The other day a Mr. Johns, seeing an omnibus bearing a placard, "From Edgware-road to London-bridge, 3*d.*," in large characters, stopped it and took his place. When he arrived at the end of his journey the fare demanded was one shilling. Johns appealed to a policeman, who opened the door of the omnibus, and on "a moveable plate," found written "Express fares, 1*s.*" By the advice of the constable the man paid the fare and summoned the conductor. Alderman Rose said he must dismiss the summons, as there had been a compliance with the statute, though it might be a colourable one. If a scale of fares had not been painted inside the omnibus, in addition to the sliding plate, he should have fined him severely; but, as that was otherwise, there had been a literal compliance with the act, though he was bound to tell the defendant and the company that the practice of exhibiting a fare outside four times less than they really meant to charge operated as a fraud upon the public. The defendant asked to be repaid for loss of time, but the alderman peremptorily refused to entertain the request.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CHARGE was preferred at Haverfordwest, on Friday last, against Mrs. Wilson, the wife of a gentleman of large landed property in Gloucestershire. This lady has no children of her own; and it is alleged that by a craftily concocted scheme she endeavoured to pass off her sister's child as one to which she had given birth, so that upon the death of her husband the property might revert to the child instead of to the next of kin. The evidence which was submitted was of a very singular character. The lady was committed to the Central Criminal Court, the alleged offence having been committed in London, but she was admitted to bail.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK FRAUDS.—James Holcroft and John Darden, the persons charged with the great frauds on the Commercial Bank, were again brought up for examination at Bow-street on Saturday last, and were fully committed for trial.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA v. DAY.—Mr. Collier, Q.C., appeared on Monday, in Vice-Chancellor Stuart's Court, for the defendant, Louis Kossuth, in support of a motion to dissolve the injunction, which was granted *ex parte* in this case on the 27th of February last, restraining the defendants, Messrs. Day, from manufacturing bank notes with the royal arms of Hungary. The Vice-Chancellor suggested that possibly it might be better if the hearing of the case were postponed till the defendant's answer had been put in. Mr. Collier, however, said that the defendant's counsel had considered that question, and preferred to take the risk of going on with the present motion on the affidavits which had been already filed.—The Court rose early.

Miscellaneous News.

LUNACY OF THE EARL OF KINGSTON.—The inquiry into the sanity of Lord Kingston has terminated, and the Commissioner has formally decreed that he is of unsound mind, and incapable of managing his affairs.

MURDER IN STAFFORDSHIRE.—Walter Piper, a boatman, of good character, living at Cosely, Staffordshire, died on Tuesday evening, of injuries inflicted upon him on the night of the 25th of March, by two men who fractured his skull and robbed him as he was returning from Bilston market.

BANKRUPTCIES THIS YEAR.—It appears that the bankruptcy rate this year is rather seriously above the average of the preceding decade. The number of bankruptcies gazetted during the three months

ending the 31st of March, is 359 in all. This would give a yearly total of 1,436, while in the ten years ending the 31st of December, the total gazetted was only 1,123. The rate is therefore nearly 28 per cent. above the average.

A DREADFUL FIRE broke out in Dublin on Sunday, which resulted in a loss, according to one account, of ten, and according to another of eleven, lives. It was only a week before that the same city was excited by the terrible omnibus catastrophe.

THE CENSUS AND EDUCATION.—It is now quite certain that education has been widely diffused. The enumerators at the late Census were struck with the progress made since 1851. The people were more intelligent, and co-operated with the public officers not only more cordially, but more ably than before.—*Times*.

FATAL FIRE IN A CROWDED LODGING-HOUSE.—On Sunday morning a fire took place in a large double house, let out to several families in what are technically termed "tenements," situate at No. 2, Falconberg-court, Crown-street, Soho-square, a densely populated and narrow thoroughfare. There were 29 persons in the house when the alarm was given. All escaped but three children, whose bodies were afterwards found lying on the floor together, not at all burnt, but insensible. They had died from suffocation. They had been locked in a room on the second floor, and forgotten!

AN IRON-CASED FRIGATE.—Our iron-mailed fleet is gradually issuing from the ship-building yards, one more of the number having been turned into its proper element. Messrs. Baillie, Westwood, Campbell, and Co., of Poplar, on Thursday successfully launched from their premises the iron-cased screw frigate *Resistance*. This instalment of the new fleet is to carry sixteen guns, and has an engine power of 600 horses. Great interest was manifested in the event by crowds who flocked from far and near. The ceremony of christening was performed by the Lady Mayoresa.

THE INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND.—At a General Meeting of the Relief Committee, held at the Mansion-house on Friday, it was reported that the probable total sum collected in the metropolis and the provinces up to the preceding evening, for the alleviation of the distress in Upper India, was not less than 51,000*l.*; and that of the sum forwarded to the Mansion-house, after sending 36,000*l.* to Bombay and Calcutta by the last two mails, the Committee had at the close of that day a balance in hand of upwards of 4,500*l.* Among those who took part in the proceedings were Sir John Lawrence, Sir Charles Trevelyan, Lord Harris, Sir E. Ryan, Sir F. Currie, Mr. Kinnaid, M.P., Mr. Arbuthnot, &c. Some 2,000*l.* has since been received.

THE METROPOLITAN RAILWAYS AND HOMES OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—At meetings just held of the inhabitants of Finsbury, some portions of which district will be affected by the projected Finsbury-circus Railway-station, resolutions have been passed and petitions to both Houses of Parliament agreed to, praying for a select committee to inquire into and devise some means by which the contemplated railway may be constructed without inflicting injury on the homes of the working classes, the proposed line extending, it is stated, over half a mile, from Fore-street, to Finsbury-pavement, and removing about 900 houses in its route, occupied, it is alleged, by 10,000 working people. The petitions also pray that when the bill goes into committee after Easter the working classes may be represented in both Houses in connexion with the various railway schemes now before the legislature.

DR. LIVINGSTONE.—The ceremony of naming the steamer City of New York, at Glasgow, on Friday, was performed by Mrs. Livingstone, the lady of Dr. Livingstone, the celebrated African traveller. At a meeting which took place after the launch it was mentioned that Mrs. Livingstone had, two hours previously, received a packet of letters from her adventurous husband, despatched from the embouchure of the Zambesi river. Dr. Livingstone and his party had returned to that point, all well, after having accomplished an arduous and successful exploration into the interior of Africa in that latitude. The results of that journey had exceeded his most sanguine expectations, founded as these were on previous geographical knowledge. The Victoria Falls, as they have been termed, he had deduced to be 310 feet in height, and about 1,860 yards in width.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE ON THE BRIGHTON VOLUNTEER SHAM FIGHT.—The first regimental dinner of the London Rifle Brigade took place on Saturday night. The Duke of Cambridge, who is colonel of the regiment, presided. His Royal Highness, in the course of the evening, expressed his views generally upon the Volunteer movement, and upon the sham fight at Brighton. He considered that the Volunteers should be regarded as a force auxiliary to the regular army. He denied that the movement was regarded with disfavour at the Horse Guards. While admitting the good intentions of the promoters of the Brighton meeting, he yet thought that the step was an ill-judged one; that the day would have been better spent in drill; and that anything like a sham fight should have been deferred till the end of the season, and then have taken place under the direction of officers of the regular army.

THE TERRIBLE OMNIBUS ACCIDENT IN DUBLIN.—The inquest on the bodies of the persons drowned in the canal, after extending to three days, was concluded on Wednesday. The jury returned the following verdict:—"We find that the several parties lost their lives by simple drowning, owing to the omnibus accidentally backing into the chamber of

the canal; and, further, we do not attach any blame to any parties, believing that every one exerted himself to the best of his judgment on this sad occasion." The jury added—"We beg to call the attention of the Canal Company and the Rathmines Commissioners to the unsafe state of the Portobello-bridge, and the great want of light thereon, for the protection of the public from a recurrence of accident on this much-used thoroughfare." The foreman also said that he was requested to state by some of his brother jurors that they thought omnibuses should have breaks henceforth.

MR. TRAIN'S STREET RAILWAY.—The new line of street railway laid down by Mr. Train in Victoria-street, Westminster, with that from the Marble-arch along the Baywater-road, are the only trams yet completed, and even these only extend a mile in length. The next to be opened is one from Hackney to Shoreditch, one from the upper part of Islington to St. Luke's, one from the Bank end of Moorgate-street towards Finsbury, and one along the Lambeth-road to Kennington-park. In spite of the opposition which has been raised against the introduction of such manifest conveniences, the new trams appear to be becoming extensively popular, and it is stated that on last Sunday as much as 30*l.* was taken in twopenny fares by the two-horse tram carriage on the Baywater-road. It is intended, we believe, to extend the length of this last-mentioned line still further out into the suburbs.

THE HAVELOCK STATUES.—On Thursday morning the statue of General Sir Henry Havelock, which has recently been erected at the south-eastern corner of Trafalgar-square, and immediately facing Northumberland House, was "uncovered," and during the day some thousands of persons had an opportunity of inspecting it. The statue, which is in full length, is in bronze, the brightness of which was extremely dazzling. The likeness of the deceased general is good, and the position in which he is standing is full of meaning.—The birthday of the late General Havelock was commemorated in Sunderland, on Friday last, by the elevation of the large statue of the gallant hero to its pedestal on the top of Building-hill, in the Park. When the task was accomplished, three cheers were given by the spectators, and three more for Lady Havelock and the present Sir H. Havelock. The statue, which is of bronze, is 10 feet high, weighs upwards of 2 tons 5 cwt., and stands facing the west upon a granite pedestal 12 feet high.

VOLUNTARY EDUCATION IN THE CHURCH.—The Church Education Society of Ireland, which held its annual meeting in Dublin on Friday, affords a striking example of what the Establishment may do by voluntary efforts. The society is as strongly opposed to the National Board system of education as some of the Catholic prelates have shown themselves to be; and to carry out the educational plans proposed by the Church Association, the very handsome sum of 44,669*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* was collected last year. The last returns of income showed a positive increase of 4,600*l.* over the previous year. The society had under its direction in 1860, 1,559 schools, with 73,497 pupils. This was a diminution in numbers occasioned by the schools of the diocese of Tuam being handed over to the Irish Church Missions. The report complains of the gross injustice done to the "United Church" by the National Church, and to the favouritism extended to the Roman Catholics, a singular mode of meeting the charge made by the Catholics, but with these funds and this earnestness, what has the Establishment to fear?—*Manchester Examiner*.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1862.—The commissioners are hard at work making the preliminary arrangements for this great event. The towns requiring the largest allotment of space are Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds, Wakefield, Norwich, and Coventry; but there are hundreds of others who desire that ample room may be afforded them for exhibiting their different branches of industry. These demands at so early a period show that the public take a deep interest in the forthcoming exhibition, and there is little doubt that in point of extent and variety it will eclipse its great prototype of 1851. The guarantee fund signed now amounts to 357,350*l.*, and it is expected to be materially increased before the end of the week. The digging of the foundations for the intended building at Kensington is nearly completed, and the foundations will be laid in the course of a few days. No delay whatever has been caused, or is likely to take place in consequence of the dispute in the building trades. Already in the provinces plans are being organised to facilitate the visit of persons to the Exhibition, and clubs for that purpose are contemplated, so that there is every reason to believe that the Exhibition of 1862 will be equally well attended as that of 1851.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The new season will open on Wednesday, the 1st of May, with a gigantic festival performance of Haydn's oratorio the *Creation*, by a band and chorus of above 3,000 performers, carefully selected by the Sacred Harmonic Society from all the leading musical societies and choirs of the country. The oratorio will be conducted by Mr. Costa. Apart from the interest excited by the extent of the orchestra and chorus at this great gathering, the cast of the solo vocalists (an important matter in this oratorio) is unprecedentedly strong. This will be at once conceded when we state that the soprano parts are supported by Mademoiselle Titians (her first appearance in sacred music in this country), and Madame Rudersdorff (to whom the part of Eve is allotted); the tenor and bass by Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Santley, and last, not least, Herr Formes, who has just returned to London, and who will take the bass solos in the first and second parts

of the oratorio. The directors have also concluded an engagement with Mr. Lumley, by which the important assistance of Mademoiselle Titiens and Signor Giuglini is secured for a series of twelve opera concerts on Fridays in May, June, and July. The flower-shows will be on the same splendid scale as last season, and, when to these are added the various miscellaneous concerts and *fêtes* which from time to time will be given as occasion may arise, it will be evident that the attractions of the Crystal Palace are not on the wane.

Literature.

SHORT NOTICES.

The Celt, the Roman, and the Saxon. By THOMAS WRIGHT, M.A., F.S.A. Second Edition, carefully revised, with Additions; and with numerous Engravings on Wood. (A. Hall, Virtue, and Co.) This admirable work on the primeval period of British history, which was noticed by us with high approbation on its first appearance in 1852, has been perfected by the learned and laborious author in this its second edition. We need hardly say that its scope is the illustration from antiquarian remains of those centuries of our national history which, in the almost entire absence of documentary materials, would be a blank but for the discoveries of the archaeologist. Since the former edition was issued many new discoveries have been made; and Mr. Wright has incorporated their results in the body of his work: while, also, the whole of the vast mass of facts, collected from many different sources, has been subjected to careful revision, that the minutest accuracy might be secured. The work was before profusely illustrated; but its value and interest are greatly increased by the addition of a considerable number of new engravings. The book is to be strongly commended to all who study more than superficially our early English history; and especially to students who have not easy access to any large collection of expensive archaeological works.—*The History of the Reformation of the Sixteenth Century.* By the Rev. J. H. MURRAY D'AUBIGNE, D.D. Abridged and Translated by the Rev. JOHN GILL, Translator of "Olausen's Commentary on St. John." (Routledge and Co.) The Translator ought to make out a good case for such an abridged D'Aubigne, seeing that we have not only library editions, but a popular one-volume edition of his well-known work. So we will let him speak for himself: "The following abridged translation is offered to the public in the hope that it will be useful to students and others, who desire to make themselves thoroughly acquainted with the facts of the Reformation, as well as with the substance of D'Aubigne's invaluable comments and illustrations, but have not the opportunity of going through a larger edition." The Translator has "also taken especial pains to render the volume attractive to young people"; and speaks of it as usable either as "a gift book," or as "a guide in classes for the study of this branch of ecclesiastical history." There will be difference of opinion as to the value of D'Aubigne's representations and comments; and certainly no student will take an abridgment of his popular work as a manual for the history of the Reformation. To an abridgment, too, there is always the objection, that unless the original complete work be compared with it as one goes along, one is never sure that the author is fairly represented to us. If it be granted, however, that there is room for such a work as this, and that it meets a need, then Mr. Gill was unmistakably the right man to undertake it, and has performed his task most intelligently and satisfactorily. The young seem to us to be the persons for whom peculiarly the book is adapted.—*Minnie's Love.* By the Author of "A Trap to Catch a Sunbeam." (London: Lockwood and Co.) This is a work of more pretension than has been before attempted by the popular writer of "A Trap to Catch a Sunbeam" and "The Cloud with the Silver Lining"—a fully developed romance, in one volume; and one evidently thought-out with sincerity of purpose and written with much care. The writings of this author are always commendable for purity of feeling, and excellent moral intention. They can hardly fail to exert a good influence on the minds of such readers as will content themselves with fiction-fare of so simple a kind. This story gives us no very strong excitement, and has no very clearly developed character; but, on the other hand, it draws none of its interest from passion or vice, and breathes a gentle sentiment that is pleasing and enlivening. There is more than "Minnie's love" in the tale;—there are three types of love; that of Minnie, the wifely love, without suspicion or distrust; that of Agnes, the modest, self-concealing, self-revealing maiden love; and that of Phoebe, the good servant, faithful, unquenchable, and enduring to the end.

PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

THE pile of quarterlies and monthlies now before us are a symptom of the growing taste of the British public for periodical literature. As if the field were not fully occupied, two new-comers demand an audience, and both present claims to our attention that cannot be gainsaid. The favourable reception accorded to the *St. James's Magazine* is due not only to the reputation of the conductor, Mrs. S. C. Hall, but to the variety and popular style of the numerous articles that appear in the first number, to the excellence of the getting up, and to the celebrity of the contributors, amongst whom are Robert Bell, "Owen Meredith," the author of "Paul Ferrol," Dr. Doran, the authoress of "John Halifax,"

&c. Though there is not much novelty in the programme—its general aim being "to promote the interests of home, the refinements of life, and the amusement and information of all classes"—the articles appeal more than is usual to the educated among the fair sex. Amongst the specialties of the first number are a popular sketch of the life and labours of Florence Nightingale, a description of the fashionable colours Mauve and Magenta from the pen of Mr. Robert Hunt, some useful hints on "The need of Sanitary Science to Women," and a "Story for the young of the household." Mrs. Hall herself contributes the first portion of a story under the title, "Can wrong be right," which has a charming frontispiece, illustrated by Mr. H. K. Browne. The *St. James's* is an excellent shilling's worth of pleasant reading.—The other new-comer presents more serious claims. The *Museum*, published by Mr. Gordon, of Edinburgh, is "a quarterly magazine of education, literature, and science;" its chief objects being to discuss methods and systems, to record educational events at home and abroad, and to communicate literary and scientific information, either bearing directly on the work of teaching, or necessary to enable teachers to keep pace with the progress of contemporary thought. Amongst the contributors to the first number are the Rev. Canon Robinson, York; Professor Pillans, Drs. J. D. Morell, Schmitz, and Hincks; the Revs. F. W. Farrar and James Currie; and Messrs. J. G. Fitch and James Lorimer. The first-named writer contributes a paper on "Middle-class education in England," and Dr. Hincks supplies a translation from an Assyrian inscription respecting Zenscherib and Heseekiah. There is also a sweeping condemnation of "Privy Council centralisation" in the matter of education. The report of the Education Commission will no doubt furnish the *Museum* with abundant material for future analysis and comment.

The *Westminster* opens with a slashing attack on Mr. Kingsley's inaugural lecture, "The Limits of Exact Science as applied to History," written by a disciple of Comte whose Positivist theory may be briefly described in the following extract:—"Men's beliefs have been either demonstrable, that is scientific, or undemonstrable, that is theological. The division is exhaustive, and of universal application. . . . Analyse it, and you find the theological element to be the margin or complement to the scientific; the former ever narrowing as the latter expands." The article is very severe on the real or supposed faults of Mr. Kingsley, and sometimes transgresses the fair limits of criticism. The paper on "Cotton Manufacture" teems with statistics that will be valuable at the present time—especially those on undeveloped fields of cultivation. As to the future of this important branch of our national industry the writer says, "The prospects of the cotton manufacture for this and the next year are not satisfactory, but at the same time they are not such as to justify the very great alarm which is occasionally expressed. The political complications of the United States may, however, produce the most disastrous results in 1862"; which the writer warns the country to provide against, by the speedy development of the other fields from which cotton may be obtained. In "The Universities and Scientific Education," the claims of the University of London are forcibly pleaded. The article on "Eton" continues, with much elaboration, the exposure of the costliness and inefficiency of that celebrated but much overrated school, and shows the necessity of the inquiry proposed by Mr. Grant Duff, into the public schools of England. The writer of "Austria and her Reforms" regards all the attempts to patch up that heterogeneous empire as useless. Austria is past amendment and must be left to her fate—to be replaced by a Danube confederation which will be better adapted to act as a barrier to Russia, and preserve the balance of power in Europe. The elaborate review of the literature of the quarter, though tinged with rationalism on theological topics, is one of the best features of the *Westminster*.

The elaborate eulogium on M. de Tocqueville with which the *National* opens is well worthy of its high literary reputation. "National Education," though written with much painstaking, will obtain but small attention now that the Education Committee have presented their report. There is a charming paper on the Memoirs of Mrs. Thrale, and a mystical disquisition on Politics and Faith. "Three Men and Three Eras" is a comparison of the policy of Washington, Jackson, and Buchanan. The *National* very elaborately discusses German politics, and adopts what is now the growing conviction that Austria, that is the Hapsburgs, have no claim on our sympathies, and that the Austrian leanings of our statesmen are injurious to the interests of Europe.

The *British Quarterly* contains an admirable selection of articles—some of them of great literary ability, such as the review of Motley's "United Netherlands" and Dixon's "Personal History of Lord Bacon," which are written in a discriminating spirit. We cannot but think that what is said about the Davidson controversy in "Theological Liberalism" had better have been left unsaid. There is a timely paper on the resources and growing importance of Canada, and one on "Our Commerce with China," which will be more satisfactory to Mr. Bruce who advocates exclusive dealing with the Imperialists of that empire, than to those who recognise the importance of the Taiping movement. "The Sinaitic

MS. of the Greek Testament" is a very learned inquiry into the various manuscripts of the Testament, and an exposure of the untrustworthy character of the boasted Curetonian Syriac version. In "The Impending Crisis in America" we have a full and terrible description of the influence of slavery in the United States, which will go far to check the sympathy that is springing up for the new Southern Confederation, and which shows the difficulty of consolidating a new state based upon the recognition and encouragement of a system which has raised the slave population in seventy years from 6,000 to nearly 5,000,000. The last article of the *British Quarterly* on the "State of Europe" is thorough-going. The writer proposes to take great liberties with the map of Europe. He would at once give Venetia to Italy, reconstitute Poland, treat the Turk as a sick man past recovery, making Bulgaria the centre of a new state in combination with Herzegovina, Montenegro, Servia, and the Principalities, to be governed by an Austrian archduke, and handing over to the Greeks Albania and Roumelia, with Constantinople for their capital!

The *London Review*, in "The Chinese Insurgents and our policy with respect to them," deals with fullness and interest on that branch of the Celestial difficulty which the *British Quarterly* has so entirely ignored. The article contained a great mass of information relative to the native dynasty, from which it draws in brief these conclusions:—1. That the Taipings are friendly to foreigners desirous of intercourse, willing to be instructed, and not indisposed to adopt their improved institutions, social, political, and religious. 2. That they know the Bible, hold it to be God's word, print and spread it; that they abolish idols, and proclaim one God and His Christ, though, like Mahomet, they add their Taiping and polygamy, but, unlike him, confess the equality if not the superior light of Protestant Christians. These deductions will be found to coincide with those of the Rev. G. John, as stated in our columns; and the *London Reviewer*, like him, strongly urges the adoption of a rigid neutrality, thoroughly carried out in all places, and all conjunctures. Among the other papers in this quarterly organ of the Wesleyan Methodists, are an interesting article on "Concurrence Evidences," "Religious Liberty," (a Free-Church view of the Cardross case), and a disquisition on "Ghost-Lore and Table-Rapping," in which the latter phenomena are traced to some force resembling electricity. "II," says the writer, "it can be established—as doubtless it can—that a current of electricity from the human body can be made to enter inert matter, and there show itself responsible to the volition and intelligence of the immortal mind within the body from which it flowed, it will go of course very far towards proving that this is the connecting link between mind and matter, the immaterial and the material."

The *Scottish Review* is a very able advocate of social reforms. The present quarterly number has articles on "Trades Unions and Strikes," a notice of the Report of the Social Science Committee; "Queensland under British Labour and Skill," a sketch of the capabilities of that promising colony; and a graphic paper by Mr. Gillfillan on Ramsay, Carlyle, and Rogers.—*Meliora*, published in London, is devoted to the same object. The number before us has papers on "Captain Macdonnell and our Convict System," and on "The New Discoveries in the Action of Alcohol."

Of the ordinary monthlies we have not much space to speak. Nearly all our readers must, by this time, be familiar with that novel feature of the *Cornhill Magazine* for April, Mr. Doyle's cartoon of an "At home," in which the miseries of a crowded evening party are depicted with painful effect. In the present number "Framley Parsonage" is brought to a fitting conclusion, but the reader is perhaps less interested in the actual fortunes of "Phillip," than in the brilliant and wholesome satire of his exhibitor. Amongst the solid papers, the "Irish Convict System" deserves the attention of statesmen and philanthropists.—"Spontaneous Combustion," the opening paper of *Blackwood*, is very striking and entertaining. It speaks of the theory, founded on certain well-known facts as incapable of proof, and denounces the continuance of its advocacy in dictionaries, encyclopedias, and works on medical jurisprudence, as a disgrace to the science of our day. "Americanisms" is one of those gossiping papers on a taking topic that is sure of a good audience.—The most prominent articles in *Fraser* are a chatty essay by A. K. H. B., "Concerning Future Years;" and a second and very able paper on "The Progress and Prospects of Astronomy." "Toleration within the Church of England," is a plea for liberty of thought, *apocryph* of the "Essays and Reviews." These writers are justified in retaining their positions in the Church on the novel ground that the right to share in the temporalities of the Establishment is only a partial compensation for the heavy disabilities which the indelibility of orders carries with it! The toleration of differences in the Church is contrasted with the stringent moral tutelage that is enforced in Nonconformist circles. Some remarks are made which we could wish were unfounded on the intolerance of freedom of religious opinion among Dissenters. But some years past a great improvement has been visible, especially amongst the intelligent Nonconformists of our large towns. *Fraser* defends the Essayists in subscribing the Articles, treats any legal prosecution as hopeless, lays the blame of the notoriety

which the book has acquired upon the Episcopal Bench and Convocation, and enlarges on the facility of authoritative resistance to the progress of theological knowledge. Private patronage is lauded as one chief security for toleration in the Establishment, and "the auctioneer" described as "one of the barriers which stand between the Church of England and such judges of heresy" as Mr. Bright would be!

Our space being exhausted, we can only acknowledge the receipt of the *Art Journal* (with engravings of Wilkie's "Wounded Guerilla," Turner's grand picture of "The death of Nelson," and Mrs. Thorneycroft's statue "The Skipping Rope"), the *Englishwoman's Magazine*, the *National Magazine*, the *Eclectic*, the *Christian Spectator*, the *Baptist and Evangelical Magazines*, the *Family Treasury*, and *Good Words*.

Cleanings.

Mr. Hallah advertises the re-opening of his singing classes, which will assemble in the Music-hall, Store-street.

A law has just been published in Austria, granting to women the right of voting at the elections of members to the Diet.

Mrs. Maden, whose oath as a free-thinker was refused by the Judge of the Rochdale County Court, has had presented to her a piano-forte, by her sympathisers.

It is said that Sir W. Armstrong has a 120-gun (preparing which will go through the sides of La Gloire, the Warrior, and the Black Prince in a row.

The students of Edinburgh University have decided by a majority of 334 to 306 votes against adopting any academic costume.

The Rev. Dr. Leask is preparing a new work for Messrs. Ward and Co., being "The Happy Years at Hand: Outlines of the coming Theocracy."

Sir Walter Scott observes that fine company and fine living are all very well for a time, but to be kept to it makes one feel like a poodle dog compelled to stand for ever on his hind legs.

A passenger was accosted in a railway train by an official. "What are you?" he asked. "The conductor." "What's your name?" "Wood." "Pooh!" exclaimed the querist; "that cannot be. Wood is a non-conductor."

Peter Page, publican, London, has committed suicide by cutting his throat. At the inquest held on the body it was stated that two brothers and two sisters of the deceased had committed suicide, and that another brother had made two attempts upon his life.

Of the six Protestant missionaries now in Japan, two are engaged in making dictionaries, one is at work upon a grammar, and a fourth upon a lexicon and vocabulary, while all are studying to acquire the use of the spoken language.

Messrs. Longman will shortly publish "The Popular Education of France," with notices of that of Holland and Switzerland. A Report to the Royal Commissioners on Popular Education, by Matthew Arnold, Foreign Assistant Commissioner, and one of her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools.

"The Streets of London," with anecdotes of their more celebrated residents, by John Thomas Smith, author of "Nollekens and his Times," edited by Charles Mackay, LL.D., will form the new volume of Messrs. Bentley's popular and standard works.

AN IMPERIAL CHILDREN'S PARTY.—EXTRAORDINARY COSTUMES.—The *France Hippique* gives an account of a juvenile party given last week to the Prince Imperial by General Fleury. The fancy costumes of the juveniles are described. Among them Eugénie Walewska was attired as a butterfly. Mademoiselle de Brigode (five years) had, we are told, a superb costume of a diabolique (!) in black, red, and yellow. (What next?) Messrs. Hurst and Blackett are preparing for publication—"The Court and Society from Elizabeth to Anne, illustrated from the Papers and Portraits at Kimbolton," edited by the Duke of Manchester.—"The Okavango River; or, Pictures of Travel, Exploration and Adventure," by Mr. C. J. Anderson.—"The Life and Correspondence of Sir Charles Napier, K.C.B., from his Private Papers," by Major-General E. Napier.—"The Life of J. M. W. Turner, R.A., from Original Letters and Papers," in the possession of his Executors, Friends and Fellow Academicians," by W. Thornbury.—"A Saunter through the West-End," by Leigh Hunt.—"The Life of the Rev. Edward Irving," by Mrs. Oliphant.—"Henry IV. and Maria de' Medici," by Miss Fraser, 2 vols., with portraits.—"The Recollections of a Sportsman," by Lord William Lennox.—"The Secret History of the Court of France under Louis XV.," by Dr. Challice.—"Sketches from Russia," by Lady Charlotte Pepys.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

BROOK.—March 31, at 17, Berners-street, Oxford-street, the wife of Mr. John Brook, dentist, of a son.

DAVIS.—April 8, at Guinea-street, Bristol, the wife of the Rev. James Davis, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

GREENWOOD—SYKES.—April 6, at Lister-lane Chapel, by the Rev. George Sarvent, Mr. Samuel Greenwood, Halifax, to Miss Eliza Sykes, of Northowram.

JEARY—IVES.—April 7, at the Independent Meeting House, Oulton, Norfolk, by Mr. J. Burrows, of Holt, Mr. William Jeary, of Ippinge, to Miss Sophia Ives, of the same place.

LOBE—MOLLETT.—April 9, at Hare-court Chapel, Canonbury, by the Rev. A. Raleigh. Mr. Lobb, of Cheapside, to Lucy, eldest daughter of Mr. Mollott, Nelson-terrace, Stoke Newington.

CLENDON—YVE.—April 9, at the Congregational Church, Ramsgate, by the Rev. H. J. Bevis. Mr. Thomas Clendon, of Glens Falls, North America, to Eliza, fifth daughter of Mr. James Yve, Ramsgate.

TAYLOR—PEACH.—April 9, at King-street Chapel, Derby, by the Rev. G. Taylor, the Rev. G. F. Taylor, of Wortley, near Leeds, to Jemima, daughter of the late Mr. Peach, of Wheat-hill, near Derby.

BEDNALL—CHADWICK.—April 9, at the Independent Chapel, Ramcorn, by the Rev. A. Howson, Mr. George Moreton Bednall, Norwich, to Sarah Taylor, eldest daughter of Mr. Thos. H. Chadwick, of Ramcorn.

BOSTOCK—SPENCER.—April 10, at Southport, by the Rev. J. E. Millson, Mr. B. S. Bostock, of Haslington, near Crewe, to Emma, youngest surviving daughter of the late Mr. Edmund Spencer, of Ashton-under-Lyne.

MUNRO—FROST.—April 10, at Tacket-street Chapel, Ipswich, by the Rev. E. Jones, Mr. D. J. Munro, Woodbridge-road, Ipswich, to Catherine Rosanna, second daughter of the late Mr. Joseph Frost, Heath Farm, St. Oyth.

SMITH—JACKSON.—April 11, at York-street Chapel, Walworth, by the Rev. P. J. Turquand, Mr. John Smith, of Camberwell, to Jane, youngest daughter of the late Mr. B. Jackson, Canterbury-row, Kennington.

WEEKS—ROSSITER.—April 11, at the Abbey-road Independent Chapel, Torquay, Mr. T. S. Weeks, to Florence Tapley, daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Rossiter, of Torquay.

QUINN—SMITH.—April 14, at Dover-street Chapel, Leicester, by the Rev. T. Stevenson, Edward, eldest son of Mr. Henry Quinn, to Sarah Shenton, youngest daughter of Mr. C. Smith, grocer, Sanvy-gate, all of Leicester.

DEATHS.

BALDWIN.—April 1, Pearce Baldwin, Esq., of Stourport, aged forty-seven.

BUDDEN.—April 3, at 8, Canonbury-park North, William Tice, eldest son of Mr. John Leggett Budden, aged nine years.

TALBOT.—April 5, aged eighty, Miss Lydia Talbot, daughter of the late Mr. Matthew Talbot, and sister of the late Mrs. Baines, of Leeds.

GAMBLE.—April 10, at her residence, Clapton-square, Hackney, Mrs. Gamble, mother of the Rev. H. J. Gamble, of Clapton, and eldest sister of Alderman Williams, of Southampton.

HODGE.—April 10, in the seventy-first year of his age, the Rev. William Hodge, for more than thirty years minister of the Congregational Church, Great Berkhamstead, Herts.

UNDERWOOD.—April 10, at Taunton, Somersetshire, after a long illness, Elizabeth, the beloved and affectionate wife of the Rev. J. S. Underwood, deeply regretted by all who knew her. Her end was peace.

BURGON.—April 11, at Gorey, Jersey, aged seventy, Mary Ann Burgon, the eldest daughter of the late Mr. John Burgon, of Hampstead.

CRUMP.—April 11, at the house of her son-in-law, Dr. William Smith, No. 76, Avenue-road, Regent's-park, Sarah, widow of the late James Crump, Esq., of Birmingham, in her seventy-eighth year.

THOMAS.—April 13, the infant son of the Rev. J. Thomas, of Stoa Chapel, Whitechapel.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The Bank of England Directors, at their weekly court on Thursday, reduced the minimum rate of discount from 6 per cent., at which it was fixed on the preceding week, to 5 per cent. Though the continued influx of gold and the abundance of money waiting employment have created a general conviction that a reduction could not be long delayed, the measure was not expected quite so soon. It has, however, given satisfaction in all quarters; and it is to be hoped that under its effects trade may revive, and the Money Market be less exposed to vague apprehensions of evil.

Money continues very easy, and in ample supply. The best short bills are readily taken at 4½ per cent., and the ordinary rates do not exceed 4½ per cent. In the Stock Exchange money is abundant at 3½ per cent. on Government securities.

The subsidence of alarming reports from the continent has had a favourable effect on the Stock Exchange, though the market has been dull. The Budget was very favourably received to-day and rather more firmness is exhibited in Consols, which are 91½ 91½ for money, and 91½ 91 for the Account. The New Threes are 90½ 90½. The Reduced, 90 90½. Long Annuities, 15½. Exchequer Bills, 3s. dis. to par. India 5 per Cent. Loan, 100½ 100½; and ditto, 5 per Cent. Enfacod Paper, 93½ 93½; ditto, 5½ per Cent. 100½; ditto, Debentures, 97 26½; and ditto, Bonds, 15s. dis.

Foreign Securities attract rather more attention, and prices continue firm.

Only limited dealings have taken place in the Railway Share Market; prices, however, are in most instances a shade firmer. Eastern Counties improved to 50. Lancashire and Yorkshire to 110½ 111. North Westerns to 95½ 96. Midlands to 124½ 124½. North Eastern, Berwick, to 102½ 102½; and North Eastern, York, to 91. In the Foreign and Colonial Markets there was very little variation. South Austrian and Lombardo-Venetian advanced to 12½ 12½. Great Western of Canada to 11½ 11½. Grand Trunk of Canada brought 20. East Indian, 99 to 99½; and Great Indian Peninsula, 94½.

Joint Stock Bank and Miscellaneous Shares are flat. Bank of Australasia have declined to 61½. British North American to 51½; and Union of London to 24½. Peninsular and Oriental Steam have improved to 69; and Red Sea Telegraph are steady at 17½.

Letters from Paris and Turin mention a rumour of an intention to raise an Italian loan of 8,000,000.

Two provincial banks have stopped payment, Messrs. Pender and Co. (the Preston Old Bank) and Messrs. Barnes, Medley, and Ansell (the Faringdon and Wantage Bank). The latter had a note circulation of 8,977½, but their general liabilities will not exceed 90,000. Messrs. Pedder did not issue their own notes, and their connexions were chiefly among agriculturists. The bank was established eighty-five years ago, and the aggregate liabilities may amount, it is thought, to 500,000, or 600,000. The stoppage was decided upon in consequence of the death by apoplexy of the senior partner, Mr. Edward Pedder. Among the assets are landed estates and mortgages on lands, and a favourable realisation is considered probable.

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.
(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 82, for the week ending on Wednesday, April 16.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued ..	£26,848,700
Government Debt ..	£11,615,100
Other Securities ..	3,450,000
Gold Bullion ..	11,525,338
Silver Bullion ..	818,362
	£26,848,700

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital ..	£14,554,000
Reserve ..	3,167,563
Public Deposits ..	4,902,527
Other Deposits ..	13,201,791
Seven Day and other Bills ..	653,155
	£26,478,036

April 17, 1861. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, April 12, 1861.

BANKRUPTS.

KING, J., 3, Sheppard's-terrace, West India Dock-road, Limehouse, hatter and clothier, April 26, May 23.
WERN, W. J., King Henry's-walk, Ball's-pond-road, mat and rug manufacturer, April 25, May 23.
AUSTIN, H., 125 and 124, Bermondsey-street, Bermondsey, manufacturing chemist, druggist, and dyer, April 25, May 23.
LAKE, J., 4, Hawthorne-road, Penge, Surrey, builder, April 25, May 24.
CALVERTLEY, J., 34, Portadown-road, Maida-vale, builder, April 25, May 24.
NORRIS, H., and NORRIS, W., jun., Mare-street, Hackney, builders, April 24, May 23.
YOUNG, J. J. C., Duke of Wellington public-house, Stonebridge-common, Kingsland-road, licensed victualler, April 24, May 22.
PEZZALI, D. S., and PEZZALI, G. S., 93, Great Tower-street, City, merchants, April 24, May 27.
BARRATT, G. F., 22, Baker's-row, and 15, Guildford-street, Ragsdale-wells-road, Clerkenwell, ironfounder and smith, April 22, May 27.
WEBB, S., Sudbury, Suffolk, builder, April 22, May 27.
WILLIAMS, AT E., Stainsby-road, Limehouse, cooper, April 25, May 18.
JACKSON, J., 23, Western-road, Brighton, Sussex, hatter, April 25, May 21.
WESTON, J., Leek, Staffordshire, tailor and draper, April 24, May 13.
ROBERTS, P., Darlaston, Staffordshire, grocer and corn dealer, April 26, May 17.
KNIGHTON, J., Nottingham, licensed victualler, April 25, May 16.
WYNN, S., Upper Tranmere, Cheshire, contractor, brick-maker, and farmer, April 26, May 17.
ROBINSON, J., Liverpool, plumber, painter, and glazier, April 24, May 13.
WOODRUFF, G., 207, Stamford-road, Hulme, Manchester, and occupying a shed at Farnworth, Lancashire, butcher and cattle dealer, April 26, May 13.

Tuesday, April 16, 1861.

BANKRUPTS.

POTMAN, W. A., New Oxford-street, glass and china dealer, April 25, May 23.
LEVITT, J., and M. T., Minories, watch manufacturers, April 30, May 30.
RAE, E., Eastcheap, City, merchant, April 30, May 23.
DUFFIELD, J., and DAWSON, W. R., Sheffield, grocers, April 27, May 18.
BOORMAN, R. K., Marden, Kent, cattle dealer, April 29, May 29.
HAMBURGH, W. H., High-street, Poplar, upholsterer, April 23, May 28.
JENKINS, E. T. N., Victoria Park-square, Bethnal-green, cigar and snuff manufacturer, April 26, May 31.
GREENHALO, S., Bury, Lancashire, confectioner, May 1 and 29.
MILLS, J., Royton, near Oldham, cotton manufacturer, April 30, May 28.
CROWN, H. C., Sheffield, shoe dealer, April 27, May 18.
BREEZE, E., Brierley-hill, Staffordshire, grocer, April 26, May 17.
COWDEROY, J., Crown Inn, Peckham, Surrey, innkeeper, April 24, May 28.

THE DEATH RATE OF YOUNG CHILDREN AN INDICATOR OF THE DEGENERATION OF RACE.—"It cannot be too distinctly recognised," says that able writer, the Medical Officer to the Board of Health, "that a high local mortality of children must almost necessarily denote a high local prevalence of those causes which determine a degeneration of race." Debility, or imperfect nutrition, regulates, so to speak, the rate of infantile mortality. The debilitated child falls an easy victim to the attacks of infectious disorders. It is unquestionable also that infantile Diarrhoea, Measles, Diphtheria, or Scrophulous Swelling of the Glands of the Stomach, Water in the Head, and the convulsive disorders consequent thereon, have their origin in Constitutional Debility. Where these Disorders of Infancy are the most fatal in their effects, the survivors will be found the most sickly, and it therefore concerns the health of the adult, as well as of the infant population, to draw attention to the following easy and efficacious means of removing this debility prevalent amongst the young. The eminent surgeon, Mr. Thomas Hunt, observes:—"In badly-nourished infants, Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is invaluable. The rapidity with which two or three teaspoonfuls daily will fatten a young child is truly astonishing. The weight gained is three times the weight of the Oil swallowed, or more; and, as children like the taste of Dr. de Jongh's Oil, and when it is given them, often cry for more, it appears as if there were some prospect of deliverance for the appalling multitude of children who figure in the weekly bills of mortality issued from the office of the Registrar-General." [Advertisement.]

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—PLEASURE TO THE HEALTHY.—There are many ailments which, without endangering life, sadly prevent its enjoyment. The patient says, he "is neither ill nor well." Things once pleasing to him now cease to be pleasurable. Let such an individual try the corrective powers of Holloway's medicaments. When this Ointment is rubbed over the stomach, liver, or kidneys, it penetrates and regulates each function that is disordered; expels all noxious matters, and adjusts the secretions of every organ respectively, so as to secure happiness to the healthy. Nausea, bilious attacks, sick headache, and diarrhoea all succumb to this treatment, aided by the proper use of Holloway's Pills, the appropriate doses of which are printed to accompany each box.—[Advertisement.]

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, London, Monday, April 16.

Our supply of English wheat this morning from Essex and Kent was short, and all samples in tolerable condition were cleared, at the prices of this day's night. The attendance was good, and foreign wheat met an improved demand at the rates of last week, excepting the inferior and out-of-conditioned new, which is difficult of disposal, and can only be sold at irregular prices. Barley is unaltered in value, fine qualities being in better demand. Beans are 1s to 2s per qr dearer. Peas dull at former prices. The oat trade is steady, at the

JOHN GOSNELL AND CO.'S

CERRY TOOTH-PASTE is greatly superior to any Tooth-powder, gives the Teeth a pearly whiteness, protects the enamel from decay, and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath. Sold by all chemists and perfumers throughout the kingdom. Price 1s. 6d. per pot. Manufacture, 12, Three King-court, Lombard-street, London.

CHIMNEY-PIECES, TOMBS, MONUMENTS, FONTS, &c.—EDWARDES BROTHERS and BURKE, 17, Newman-street, Oxford-street, London, W., beg to inform the nobility and gentry that they manufacture at their own establishments, in Italy and Belgium, as well as at the above address, every description of marble work, at the lowest possible prices. Their galleries contain specimens of all foreign and British marble quarried, in chimney pieces, from 2s. to 300 guineas each; Monuments and Tablets, from 5s.; head and foot stones, from 3s. each.—Sole agents to the Invernettle Granite Company.

KEATING'S COD LIVER OIL—The Pale Newfoundland, pure and tasteless, the Light Brown cheaper and of good quality. The demand for these oils, most highly recommended for their medicinal properties, has so greatly increased that Mr. Keating, being anxious to bring them within the reach of all classes, now imports direct, the Pale, from Newfoundland, and the Brown, from the Shetland Islands.—The Pale may be had in half-pints, 1s. 6d.; pints, 2s. 6d.; quarts, 4s. 6d. The Light Brown, in pints, 1s. 8d.; quarts, 3s. No higher price need be paid. At 19, St. Paul's-churchyard.

DR. DE JONGH'S

(Knight of the Order of Leopold of Belgium)

LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL, Prescribed by the most eminent Medical Men as the safest, speediest, and most effectual remedy for CONSUMPTION, CHRONIC BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, COUGHS, RHEUMATISM, GOUT, GENERAL DEBILITY, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, AND ALL SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

The invariable purity, palatableness, speedy efficacy, and consequent economy of this unrivalled preparation have obtained for it the general approval and unqualified confidence of the Medical Profession, and notwithstanding the active and in too many instances unscrupulous opposition of interested dealers, an unprecedented amount of public patronage. The immeasurable therapeutic superiority of Dr. de Jongh's Cod Liver Oil over every other variety is incontestably established by the recorded opinions of the most distinguished Physicians and Surgeons in all parts of the world. In numberless instances, where other kinds of Cod Liver Oil had been long and copiously administered with little or no benefit, Dr. de Jongh's Oil has produced almost immediate relief, arrested disease, and restored health.

SELECT MEDICAL OPINIONS:—

Sir HENRY MARSH, Bart., M.D., T.C.D., Physician in Ordinary to the Queen, in Ireland; President of the College of Physicians in Ireland; Visiting Physician to Stevens' Hospital; Consulting Physician to the City of Dublin, St. Vincent, and Rotunda Hospitals, &c., &c. "I have frequently prescribed Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil. I consider it to be a very pure Oil, not likely to create disgust, and a therapeutic agent of great value."

A. B. GRANVILLE, Esq., M.D., L.R.C.P., F.R.S., Author of "The Spas of Germany," "The Spas of England," "On Sudden Death," &c., &c. "Dr. Granville has used Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil extensively in his practice, and has found it not only efficacious but uniform in its quality. He believes it to be preferable in many respects to Oils sold without the guarantee of such an authority as Dr. de Jongh. Dr. Granville has found that this particular kind produces the desired effect in a shorter time than others; and that it does not cause the nausea and indigestion too often consequent on the administration of the Pale Oils. The Oil being, moreover, much more palatable, Dr. Granville's patients have themselves expressed a preference for Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil."

Sold ONLY in IMPERIAL Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 9d.; Quarts, 8s.; and labelled with Dr. de Jongh's stamp and signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE CAN POSSIBLY BE GENUINE, by respectable Chemists.

SOLE CONSIGNERS,
ANSAR, HARFORD AND CO., 77, STRAND,
LONDON, W.C.

CAUTION.—BEWARE OF PROPOSED SUBSTITUTIONS.

A BOON to NERVOUS SUFFERERS.—TWENTY THOUSAND COPIES of a Medical Book for gratuitous circulation. HENRY SMITH, Doctor of Medicine of the University of Jena, &c., who has devoted fifteen years to the study and treatment of Nervous Debility, Loss of Memory, Dimness of Sight and Indigestion, will send free, for the benefit of Nervous Sufferers, a copy of the NEW MEDICAL GUIDE, containing his highly successful mode of treatment. Post free to any address on receipt of a stamped directed envelope. Address, Dr. H. Smith, 8, Barton-crescent, Tavistock-square, London, W.

FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH
Price 1s. 1d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

This excellent family medicine is the most effective remedy for indigestion, bilious and liver complaints, sick headache, loss of appetite, drowsiness, giddiness, spasms, and all disorders of the stomach and bowels; and for elderly people, or where an occasional aperient is required, nothing can be better adapted.

For FEMALES these pills are truly excellent, removing all obstructions, the distressing headache so very prevalent with the sex, depression of spirits, dullness of sight, nervous affections, blotches, pimples, and sallowness of the skin, and give a healthy, juvenile bloom to the complexion. Sold by all medicine vendors. Observe "Thomas Frost, 227, Strand, London," on the Government stamp.

LIVER COMPLAINTS, BILE, and INDIGESTION CURED WITHOUT MERCURY.

There are only TWO MEDICINES KNOWN which really act upon the Liver; one is Mercury in the form of Blue Pill or Calomel; the other is Dandelion. But if the Public knew the thousands of people whose constitutions have been broken down by Mercury, Calomel, or Blue Pill, they would be persuaded to take no other Aperient than

DR. KING'S DANDELION and QUININE LIVER PILLS.

which act gently and very efficaciously upon the liver, liberate bile, disperse wind, and strengthen the whole frame. They are prepared from the Prescription of a Physician of seventy years standing, and are not like a Quack Medicine by unskilful men. There is no fear of cold as with all other Bile Pills. They are the best remedy for bile, indigestion, and torpid liver, wind, costiveness, piles, sickness, fainting, distension of the stomach, furred tongue, unpleasant taste of mouth, noises and giddiness in the head, fluttering of the heart, and nervous debility.

Sold in boxes at 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d., for Dr. King, at 10, Hungerford-street, London.
Agents—Barclay, 96, Farringdon-street; Edwards, 67, St. Paul's-churchyard; Butler, 4, St. Paul's-churchyard; Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; Hannay, Oxford-street; and all Medicine Vendors.

SEWING MACHINES.

Dress and Mantle Makers, Drapers, and Families, are informed that W. F. THOMAS and CO., the original PATENTERS, have constructed a NEW MACHINE especially for their use. The stitching produced (alike on both sides of the material), is the same as that made by the more expensive machines manufactured by W. F. Thomas and Co., and of which so large a number has been sold within the last few years. Price complete, 10s. The Machines may be seen at 66, Newgate-street, London; 131, Market-street, Manchester; and 54, Union-passage, New street, Birmingham.

THE BEST and CHEAPEST TEAS and COFFEES in ENGLAND are at all times to be OBTAINED OF PHILLIPS and COMPANY, Tea Merchants, 8, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY, LONDON, E.C.

Good strong useful Congou Tea 2s. 6d., 2s. 8d., 2s. 10d., 3s., 3s. 2d., and 3s. 4d.
Rich Souchong Tea 2s. 6d., 2s. 8d., 2s. 10d., and 3s.
Pure Coffees 1s. 9d., 1s. 9d., 1s. 9d., 1s. 9d., 1s. 9d., and 1s. 9d.

A Price Current Free. Sugars at Market Prices.

PHILLIPS and CO. send ALL GOODS CARRIAGE FREE, by their own Vans, within Eight Miles of No. 8, King William-street, City; and send Teas, Coffees, and Spices, Carriage Free to any Railway Station or Market Town in England, to the value of 40s. or upwards.

WEBSTER'S CELEBRATED GOOD AND PURE TEAS, on comparison, will prove very superior to those hitherto advertised as best.

Very Superior Black Tea, 3s., 3s. 2d., and 3s. 4d. Choice, 3s. 6d. Very Choice, 3s. 8d. The very Best Black Tea Imported, 4s. per lb.—Good Coffee, 1s. 1d. Superior, 1s. 2d. Choice Mocha Coffee, 1s. 3d., 1s. 4d., 1s. 5d. The very Best Old Mocha, 1s. 8d.

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A SAMPLE CHEST forwarded carriage free to any part of England, containing

5 lb. of very Choice Souchong .. 3s. 8d. £1 2 0
1 lb. of very Choice Gunpowder .. 4s. 6d. 0 4 6
2 lb. of the Best Congou Tea .. 3s. 4d. 0 6 8
3 lb. of Choice Mocha Coffee .. 1s. 6d. 0 4 6

WEBSTER BROTHERS pay carriage on all Orders for Teas, Coffees, and Spices, amounting to £2 and upwards, to any part of England, and deliver goods carriage free, with their own carts, to all parts of London daily.

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HAS BEEN EXTENSIVELY USED AND PRONOUNCED EFFICIENT, AND PARTICULARLY APPLICABLE TO WARM CLIMATES.

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PRICE ONE PENNY PER SQUARE FOOT.

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VERSUS COGNAC BRANDY.

This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY rivals the finest French brandy. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious, and very wholesome. Sold in bottles, 3s. 8d. each, at most of the respectable retail houses in London; by the appointed agents in the principal towns in England; or wholesale at 8, Great Windmill-street, Haymarket, W. Observe the red seal, pink label, and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

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GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH
SEEK THAT YOU GET IT,
as inferior kinds are often substituted,

EPPE'S HOMOEOPATHIC COCOA.—The delicious aroma, grateful smoothness, and invigorating power of this highly triturated preparation have procured its general adoption as a desirable breakfast beverage.

Sold in 1 lb., ½ lb., and ¼ lb. packets, at 1s. 6d. per lb., by Grocers. Each Packet is labelled "JAMES EPPE, Homoeopathic Chemist, London."

Sold by all the principal Grocers.

FLOUR, warranted free from adulteration, to any part of London (not less than 14 lbs.) carriage free.—Whites, for pastry, at per bushel (56 lbs.), 11s. 8d.; Households, recommended for bread-making, 11s. 6d.; Seconds, 10s. 4d.; Meal, for brown bread, 9s. 8d.

Address, HORSNAILL and CATCHPOOL, Bullfinch Mills, Witham, Essex; or 97, Goswell-road, City-road, E.C. Directions for bread-making gratis. Terms cash. A half sack or upwards free to any railway station (200 miles).

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PATENT CORN FLOUR.

The "Lancet" states,
"This is superior to anything of the kind known."

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It is respectfully suggested that the Trade Mark and name in full should be observed on each Package, as similar articles are sometimes substituted or recommended as "the same," or "as good as Brown and Polson's."

BROWN AND POLSON,

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KALYDOR SOAP.—The singularly emollient qualities of this Soap are such as the use of it can alone explain. It counteracts the injurious effects of cold winds; and in all climates, by its constant use, the beauty of the complexion is conserved, and the skin retains its youthful softness.

Made only by the Inventor, J. THOMPSON, at his Factory, 6, King-street, London. 3d., 4d., and 6d. each Tablet. Sold by Chemists and Perfumers, &c.

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THE GREAT REALITY OF THE REFORM MOVEMENT is evidenced by the extraordinary and increasing excitement now prevailing amongst all classes of Her Majesty's subjects respecting

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HARPER TWELVETREES' Patent Concentrated LIQUID BLUE for WASHING is an elegant preparation of the finest Indigo, which supercedes the objectionable use of Stone and Powder Blues, and imparts a rich, beautiful, and delicate tint to the linen, and is strongly recommended in cases where linen has been injured in colour by bad washing or drying, as it will effectually restore that perfect virgin whiteness so much desired. The article is constantly used in the large Manufacturing and Bleaching Districts, and by the principal Laundresses, and Shirtmakers, and Lace-dressers throughout the kingdom. One trial will be sufficient to test the article as the best and cheapest article ever introduced. A few drops only will be sufficient to colour the water.—Sold in bottles at 1d., 2d., 6d., and 1s., and by the gallon or cask to manufacturers. Every bottle bears Harper Twelvetrees' name. Sold wholesale at Harper Twelvetrees' Great Metropolitan Black Lead, Laundry Blue, Blacking, Ink, and Soap Powder Works, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.

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ALTHOUGH Baking Powders are as necessary as baking, there are few Baking Powders which are really worth using. HARPER TWELVETREES having recently devoted considerable time and research, and having spared no expense in securing the assistance of some of the most eminent Professors of Chemistry in Europe for improving and perfecting his Baking and Pastry Powder, is enabled confidently to recommend it as the strongest, purest, and best that can be prepared. The excellence and superiority of HARPER TWELVETREES' improved BAKING and PASTRY POWDER are unrivalled, whilst its valuable and economical properties for readily producing wholesome and really digestible Bread without yeast exceed all belief. HARPER TWELVETREES respectfully courts every inquiry and solicits every test as to the value of these statements, assured that a single trial of his improved article will fully corroborate them. Try it also for Pastry, Plum-cakes, Pie-crusts, Biscuits, Tea-cakes, Buns, Pannakes, Light Puddings, Suet and Batter Puddings. Sold in canisters at 8d. and 1s. each, and packets of 1d. and 2d. each, by Grocers, Druggists, and Cornchandlers. Patentees, HARPER TWELVETREES, The Works, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E., and wholesale by all the London wholesale houses.

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HOOPER'S highly concentrated LIQUID ANNATTO for Colouring Cheese and butter produces a beautiful Golden Tint, and is most convenient for colouring the whole Dairy of Cheese or Butter alike. It is an article of considerable repute amongst the largest and most experienced Farmers of the Grazing Districts of England, Scotland, Ireland, Holland, and Germany, and is made from the Original Recipe of the late G. Darby (the Grandfather of Messrs. W. and J. Hooper), who was the first person that ever made it.—The genuine is now manufactured only by HARPER TWELVETREES, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.C., who possesses the Original Recipe in Old Mr. Darby's handwriting.—Sold in Bottles at 6d., 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., 5s., by all Grocers and Druggists in the Cheesemaking and Buttermaking Districts, and may be had of all the London Wholesale Houses. MANUFACTORY, HARPER TWELVETREES, BROMLEY-BY-BOW, LONDON, E.

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(Signed) JAMES SHIERMAN.

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